

More pages  
because of  
coversheets that  
were left out.  
Before

# **THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST**

**ISSUED BY THE  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

**21 NOVEMBER 1963**

**~~TOP SECRET~~**

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## 1. Iraq

a. The new 21-man cabinet appears to be a coalition of Arab nationalist elements including four members of the moderate wing of the Baath Party. The regime is still dominated by the military, with eight cabinet posts.

b. The new prime minister, Tahir Yahya, is sympathetic to the Baath Party, and both the Baathists and the Egyptians feel they can trust him.

c. The political affiliation of eight of the new ministers is not known, but the key interior post is in the hands of an anti-Baathist nationalist.

NBR

## 2. Indonesia

a. Defense Minister Nasution has been ordered by Sukarno to make conciliatory statements on Malaysia while on his trip abroad.

b. The Dutch chargé who reported this explained that Nasution was chosen for this job because Sukarno was irritated with the ultra-tough line the defense minister has taken.

NBR

(Cont'd)

For The President Only - Top Secret

2/BR

c. The chargé has no information on the motives behind this switch. Our embassy thinks it may be a move to pave the way for exploratory talks by Foreign Minister Subandrio at Bangkok with his Thai and Philippine counterparts. It may also be meant to provide a more receptive attitude for Nasution's visit here.

NBR

d. Our embassy thinks Nasution went in for his Malaysia sabre rattling on Sukarno's orders, or at the very least, with the president's tacit support. Sukarno may feel Nasution has stolen some of his thunder.

### 3. Congo

a. Adoula still did not get around to announcing the expulsion of all Soviet and Czech embassy personnel yesterday. However, his people managed on Tuesday afternoon to corral and hog-tie the Soviet counselor and press attaché before they could eat-up all the incriminating papers in their possession.

b. The Russians are now being held at Ndolo prison. The Congolese surete says the seized papers include, among other things, minutes of a "liberation committee" meeting of opposition politicians in Brazzaville, and a document showing Soviet payments to this group.

NBR

(Cont'd)

For The President Only - Top Secret

2/BR

c. The Belgian ambassador thinks these papers are probably genuine. He says the Russians have made the mistake of underrating the Congolese and have stumbled into a surete trap.

d. The Congolese also picked up two Czech diplomats but have since released them. This morning they arrested the correspondent of the Soviet news agency.

NBR

4. Ethiopia-Congo

a. Haile Selassie is planning to withdraw all Ethiopian troops from the Congo in January, [REDACTED]

b. The two battalions of Ethiopians provide the guts of the UN operation. They had been slated to stay until June and are likely to be very difficult to replace.

c. The Emperor reportedly ordered the withdrawal on grounds that the troops are urgently needed in Ethiopia, particularly in view of the Soviet military accord with Somalia.

d. Our ambassador has asked to see the Emperor, as well as the prime minister and foreign minister, to press for reconsideration.

NBR

For The President Only - Top Secret

2/BR

**5. Yemen**

a. Military activity has slackened but the stalemate continues.

b. Egypt still has about 32,000 troops in Yemen, and [ ] believes Nasir will not withdraw any significant number of them before 4 January when the extension of the disengagement agreement expires.

c. Faysal is preparing to resume aid to the royalists at that time; he is stockpiling quantities of arms and ammunition along the border.  
(Includes [ ])

NBR

**6. Turkey**

a. The opposition Justice Party, heir of the old Menderes regime, appears to have won a victory in Sunday's nationwide local elections on the basis of incomplete returns.

b. The collapse of Prime Minister Inonu's coalition government appears increasingly likely. Though a new coalition may be formed, there will be considerable resistance to the retention of Inonu as prime minister.

NBR

(Cont'd)

For The President Only - Top Secret

21BR

c. Justice Party members will be putting on pressure for early national parliamentary elections. However their party leaders do not believe the Turkish military, which ousted Menderes in 1960, would permit them to take over if they won new elections.

d. They will probably try to work out some rapprochement with the armed forces.

NBR

For The President Only - Top Secret

U/BR

NOTES

A. Cuba The U-2 which flew yesterday's mission over Cuba crashed while returning, about 40 miles north of Key West. Air and sea rescue craft were sent to the scene. An air rescue unit sighted an unopened parachute, a life raft, and oil slick in the crash area. The pilot is presumed lost. There is no indication that the plane was attacked.

B. Berlin Local East German troops acting without higher authority appear to have been responsible for turning high powered searchlights on pilots taking off from West Berlin's Tempelhof airfield on 14-16 November. There were five such incidents. A message of 16 November instructed border guard elements to discontinue such acts. There have been no further incidents reported since. NBR

C. Albania-USSR A Radio Tirana broadcast has accused Khrushchev of personally releasing Barghoorn for fear that Moscow's wheat deal with the US might collapse. The Albanians are on record as preferring to eat grass rather than to kowtow to the West, but they are not above eating Chinese wheat acquired from Western sources. NBR

D. Iran-USSR The Soviet Union's timing seems to be off in Iran. a twin engined plane was shot down in Iranian territory ~~yesterday~~ by Soviet jet fighters who violated Iranian air space. The Iranians say that the plane was on a photographic mission in connection with the Tuesday NBR

(Cont'd)

For The President Only - Top Secret

3/BR



government's land reform drive. The pilot was injured and his two passengers were killed. The incident comes at a time when Soviet President Brezhnev is visiting Tehran. He addressed a joint session of parliament today.

NBR

E. Venezuela Police seem to have restored order in downtown Caracas, but terrorism continues elsewhere. The slum district of Caracas to which the terrorists retreated is under virtual martial law. Among other things, the Dupont paint warehouse at Maracaibo was set afire and totally destroyed.

NBR

F. World Peace Council The WPC meeting in Warsaw next Thursday may wind up in another free-for-all. The Chinese Communist delegation, although not intent on disrupting the conference, plans to attack the WPC president's report

NBR

For The President Only - Top Secret

3/BR

**DOCUMENT OF INTEREST**

**Debriefing of Professor Frederick Barghoorn**

**For The President Only - Top Secret**

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# **THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST**

**ISSUED BY THE  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

**20 NOVEMBER 1963  
TOP SECRET**

NBR

## 1. Iraq-Syria

a. Although sporadic gunfire continued through the night in Baghdad, the army is in control.

b. Arif has plans to announce the make-up of his cabinet today. It will probably contain some "mild" Baathists.

c. He permitted Syrian strongman Hafiz and Michel Aflaq, the founder of the Baath Party, who were caught in Baghdad by the coup, to fly back to Damascus yesterday after the Syrian radio suddenly stopped vilifying the newest Iraqi regime.

d. Arif and his colleagues obviously hope to reach an understanding with the Syrian regime. We doubt very much if they are interested, however, in the meaningful political and military unity the previous regime was aiming for.

f. The retention of Baathists in positions of power in Baghdad also tends to ease the threat to the party in Syria.

For The President Only - Top Secret

1/BR

## 2. Venezuela

C.♡  
plus

a. The Communist effort to frustrate the presidential election (1 December) continues.

b. An illegal transmitter was heard yesterday in Caracas calling for a 48-hour general strike and urging listeners to arm themselves against the Betancourt government.

c. Roving bands of Communist-led terrorists sought to enforce the generally unsuccessful strike with gunfire. There were at least nine deaths (some reports go as high as 19). Guerrilla activity in rural areas is also being stepped up.

d. The government has jailed an added 200 extremists in the wake of yesterday's violence and plans are afoot to detain 1,500 more.

e. The army is being held in reserve in the Caracas area.

NR

## 3. South Vietnam

08  
[C 1 B]

a. Ton That Dinh, whom we had earlier identified as the least reliable of the generals' group, is trying to use his position as security minister to build himself an independent political base.

(Cont'd)

2/BR

For The President Only - Top Secret

b. He has been visiting provincial cities to "explain" the military takeover and receive expressions of loyalty. He has continued to spread the idea that the coup was largely his own doing.

#### 4. France-Israel

(Cont'd)

118R

For The President Only - Top Secret

**5. Egypt**

a. Pamphlets and posters bitterly lampooning Nasir, especially for his involvement in Yemen and Algeria, have appeared on the streets of Cairo and Suez.

b. Such public expression of anti-Nasir sentiment is highly unusual.

c. It is still in a very low key, however, and there is no sign of organized opposition.

d. We do not consider Nasir to be in any immediate danger of overthrow, though he could be forced to modify unpopular policies if the discontent spreads.

NSR

NSR

For The President Only - Top Secret

**6. Bolivia**

a. The return last week of Vice President Lechin, who has been on ice as Bolivia's ambassador in Rome, will heat things up in La Paz.

b. The city has already witnessed four minor demonstrations which Embassy La Paz attributes to left-wingers encouraged by Lechin's presence.

NBR

**7. Cambodia**

a. Sihanouk may have finally painted himself into a corner on US aid.

b. He has followed up yesterday's emotional public renunciation with an official request to our embassy for talks on the subject.

NBR

(Cont'd)

2/BR

For The President Only - Top Secret



originally from Ed Hanck  
19 Nov

c. We are always reluctant to predict just what Sihanouk will do next, but he may hope, perhaps expect, that the US will press him to retain some of our aid, even on his terms.

NBR

VBR

For The President Only - Top Secret

NOTESA. Congo

[redacted] Adoula will finally announce this morning the expulsion of all personnel of the Soviet and Czech embassies. This move has been hanging fire ever since security officials turned up evidence several weeks ago implicating personnel of these embassies in antigovernment activities. [redacted]

NBR

B. USSR

C 13

NBR

C. Sino-Soviet

Peiping has been quick to exploit the opening provided by Barghoorn's release. To the Chinese this affair is an object lesson in how Khrushchev knuckles under to US pressure without getting a thing in return.

NBR

D. USSR-Cuba

The five passenger ships we mentioned in last Thursday's Checklist have docked and departed. Some of them brought in rotational troops and all of them took out Soviet personnel. We cannot strike a firm balance on the basis of the evidence we now have, but it is possible that as many Soviets went out as came in. [redacted]

(Cont'd)

E/BR

For The President Only - Top Secret

E. Czechoslovakia-Mali

NBR

CIB F. Japan Ikeda does not appear to be in any particular trouble in tomorrow's elections. The long-range trend toward the left in popular vote will probably be apparent, but Ikeda's Liberal Democratic Party should retain a safe majority in the next Diet. The leftists have tried to turn rising prices and last week's twin disasters into election ammunition, but without marked success.

NBR

G. Indonesia Djakarta is trying to round up support for making Sukarno's little Olympics, the "Games of the New Emerging Forces," a permanent thing.

NBR

H. Israel

NBR

I. Brazil A new round of army promotions and shifts in command are due Anti-Goulart elements ranks will be further thinned. Congenital plotters on the far right are talking coup

NBR

S/NBR

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TO:	NAME AND ADDRESS	DATE	INITIALS
1			
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3			
4			
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	APPROVAL	DISPATCH	RECOMMENDATION
	COMMENT	FILE	RETURN
	CONCURRENCE	INFORMATION	SIGNATURE
REMARKS:			
FROM: NAME, ADDRESS, AND PHONE NO.			DATE

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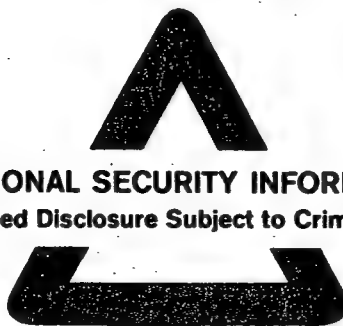
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(Security Classification)

# **THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST**

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM  
RELEASE AS SANTIIZED  
1998

ISSUED BY THE  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

22 NOVEMBER 1963

~~TOP SECRET~~

In honor of President Kennedy  
for whom the President's Intelligence Checklist  
was first written on 17 June 1961

For The President Only ~~Top Secret~~

For this day, the Checklist Staff can find no words more fitting than a verse quoted by the President to a group of newspapermen the day he learned of the presence of Soviet missiles in Cuba.

For The President Only ~~Top Secret~~

Bullfight critics ranked in rows  
Crowd the enormous plaza full;  
But only one is there who knows  
And he's the man who fights the bull.

For The President Only ~~Top Secret~~



# THE WHITE HOUSE

OUTGOING MESSAGE



OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS  
PRECEDENCE

TOP SECRET DIRM 22 NOV 63  
CLASSIFICATION

DATE

FROM: SAC/OCI

TO: EYES ONLY FOR THE PRESIDENT

INFO:

CITE:

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST, 22 NOVEMBER 1963

PAGE \_\_\_\_\_ OF \_\_\_\_\_

TOP SECRET DINAR

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST--22 NOVEMBER 1963

1. USSR:

*Mil Div  
Hides,  
21 Nov*

A. "GRIFFON", THE SOVIET ANTIMISSILE DISPLAYED IN THE 7 NOVEMBER MOSCOW PARADE, APPEARS DESIGNED ONLY FOR USE WITHIN THE ATMOSPHERE.

*NBR*

2. CAMBODIA:

A. SIHANOUK HAS GIVEN THE FRENCH IN PHNOM PENH FORE-WARNING THAT HE PLANS TO REVIVE HIS NEUTRALITY GUARANTEE PROPOSALS.

B. HE WANTS THE TWELVE GENEVA CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS TO MEET IN SOME ASIAN CITY; "AT THE GREAT POWERS' EXPENSE," TO WORK OUT A NEUTRALITY GUARANTEE DECLARATION.

*NBR*

C. THE FRENCH SAY THEY PLAN TO RESPOND FAVORABLY AND HOPE WE WILL TOO, LEST SIHANOUK OTHERWISE TAKE THE FINAL IR-REVOCABLE STEP INTO THE COMMUNIST BLOC.

(CONT'D)

*2/NBR*

TOP SECRET DINAR

## TOP SECRET DINAR

D. MEANWHILE PEIPING HAS DECLARED IT WOULD GIVE "ALL-OUT SUPPORT SHOULD CAMBODIA ENCOUNTER ARMED INVASION INSTIGATED BY THE US OR ITS VASSALS."

E. ~~MINISTER~~ MINISTER OF DEFENSE LON NOL HAS INTIMATED TO GENERAL TABER THAT THE CAMBODIAN MILITARY DOES NOT APPROVE OF TERMINATION OF US AID. CAMBODIAN MILITARY OFFICERS HAVE MADE IT PLAIN THAT THE US RETAINS A RESERVOIR OF GOOD WILL WITHIN THE COUNTRY'S MILITARY. NR

## 3. NOTES:

*FBIS 21*  
A. CUBA-US: A PRENSA LATINA ITEM YESTERDAY DATED IN NEW YORK, SAYS THE STUDENT COMMITTEE FOR TRAVEL TO CUBA HAS STARTED ORGANIZING ANOTHER TRIP, HOPEFULLY TO INCLUDE AS MANY AS 500 STUDENTS THIS TIME. OVER 100 ARE SAID TO HAVE APPLIED SO FAR.

*IN 66089*  
*MEMO from Col. Anderson*  
B. U-2 CRASH: SALVAGE OPERATIONS CONTINUE ON THE WRECKAGE OF THE U-2. THERE IS STILL NO TRACE OF THE PILOT, CAPTAIN HYDE, WHO EVIDENTLY EJECTED SOMETIME BEFORE IMPACT.

*Copenhagen 383*  
C. DENMARK-USSR: DANISH FOREIGN MINISTER HAEKKERUP, VISITING KHRUSHCHEV ON THURSDAY, PRESENTED HIM WITH A MADE-IN-DENMARK ROCKING CHAIR, EXPRESSING THE HOPE THAT IT WOULD NOW BE POSSIBLE TO ROCK IN RHYTHM IN BOTH THE KREMLIN AND THE WHITE HOUSE. APPARENTLY KHRUSHCHEV WILL BE MAKING HIS SCANDANAVIAN TOUR NEXT SPRING. NR

(CONT'D)

TOP SECRET DINAR 2/BR

**TOP SECRET DINAR**

**D. JAPAN** YESTERDAY'S JAPANESE ELECTION DID NOT CHANGE THE GENERAL BALANCE BETWEEN CONSERVATIVES AND SOCIALISTS IN THE DIET. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] THE SOCIALISTS GAINED A FEW SEATS, BUT FELL SHORT OF THEIR GOAL OF BREAKING THE "ONE-THIRD BARRIER." *NBR*

**E. INDONESIA-US:** [REDACTED] INDONESIAN OFFICIALS ARE LETTING IT BE KNOWN INDIRECTLY, VIA THE OIL COMPANY REPRESENTATIVES, THAT SUKARNO MAY WELL HOLD UP SIGNATURE OF THE LAW RATIFYING OIL CONTRACTS WITH THE BIG THREE UNTIL THE US POSITION ON AID TO INDONESIA IS "CLARIFIED." US AID THEY SAY WAS PROMISED BY WILSON WYATT AS PART OF A "PACKAGE DEAL" FOR SETTLING WITH THE OIL COMPANIES. *NBR*

**TOP SECRET DINAR**

*2/NBR*

file  
✓ Johnson

# **THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST**

ISSUED BY THE  
**CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

**23 NOVEMBER 1963**  
**TOP SECRET**

1. South Vietnam

*Note from Ed Hauck  
22 Nov*

*C1B*

a. Vietnamese Communist efforts to discredit the new Saigon regime stayed in high gear this week.

b. The number of armed attacks was off from the high of the previous week but still some 50% above the year's weekly average.

c. These attacks have been, for the most part, small-scale efforts directed against the government's paramilitary forces in the villages. They have been designed more for their psychological impact than for immediate military gain.

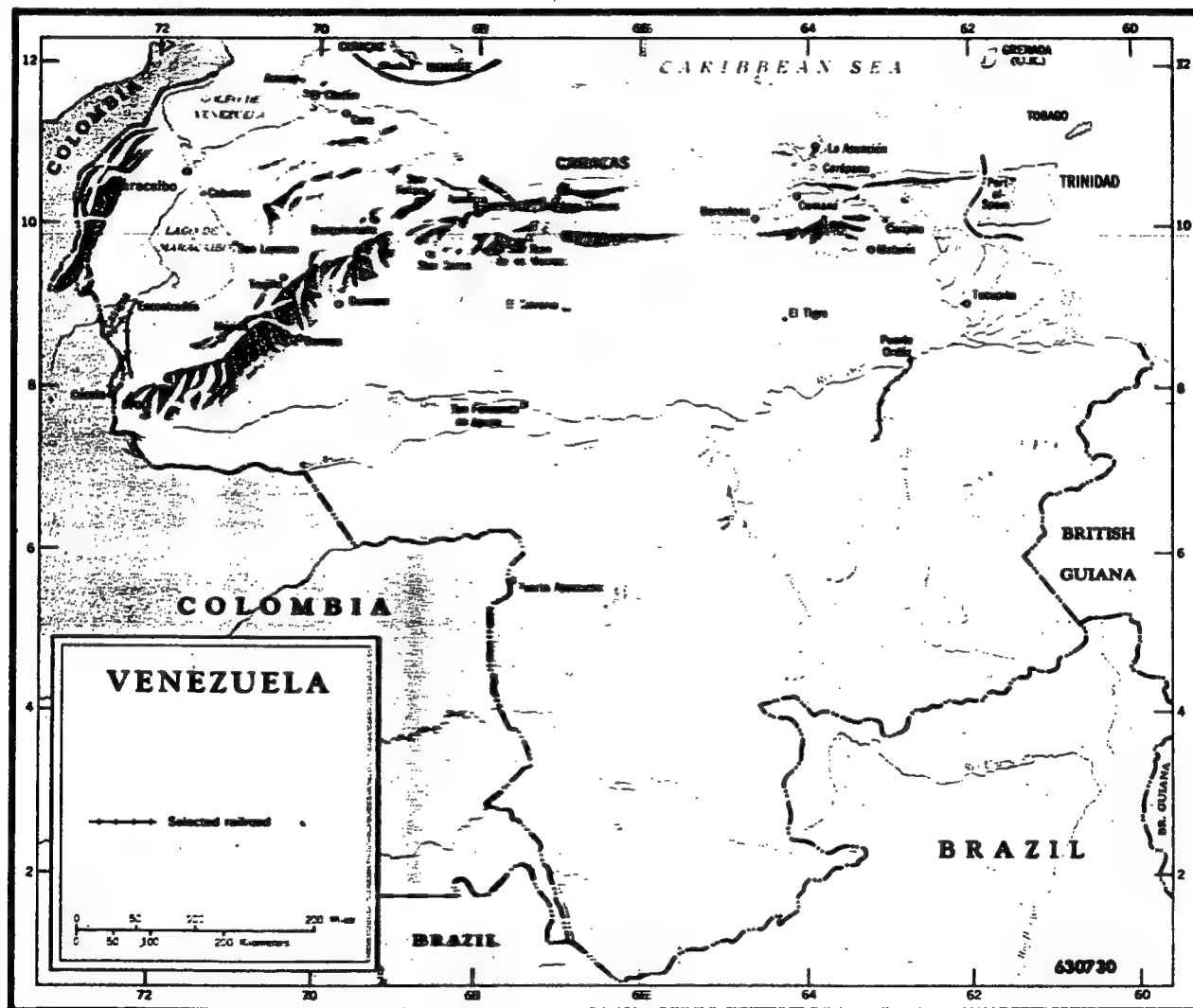
d. A high volume of messages on Viet Cong military and political communications nets indicates a probable continuation of this effort.

e. The new government is responding by stepping up its own military operations. It is also setting about the hard job of revamping the Diem government apparatus and harnessing broader popular support for the war effort.

f. The generals have been dealing fairly effectively with

(Cont'd)





NBR

NBR

their new responsibilities. There are, however, a few signs of dissension within this group and between it and civilian politicians.

g. One of the more ambitious and troublesome figures is the able but opportunistic General Ton That Dinh, the new Minister of Security. He has been travelling about the country spreading the idea that the coup was largely his doing and seems bent on developing his own independent base of power. He is a man to watch.

h. The new regime has also embarked on a purge of high military officers who sided with Diem during the Buddhist crisis and failed to get on the right side soon enough.  
(INTERCEPTS)

## 2. Venezuela

a. The death toll from the terrorist outburst in Caracas last Tuesday and Wednesday now stands at about 30.

b. This is the high water mark thus far in the campaign of the Castro-supported Communist extremists to disrupt the national elections a week from tomorrow.

NBR

(Cont'd)



c. The Betancourt government has struck back hard. Its new unified command over the security forces, [redacted] passed this initial test with flying colors.

d. At least 500 extremists were arrested and the round-up is still going on. Their removal will hamper the Communist drive against elections in major cities like Caracas.

e. We now expect the elections to be held on schedule, a considerable achievement under the circumstances. The elections will be followed, however, by a Communist effort to prevent the March inauguration of the victor.

f. The rub here is that none of the presidential candidates commands President Betancourt's considerable assets for dealing successfully with the harsh realities of Venezuelan politics. The constitution prevents Betancourt from succeeding himself.

g. In the background, as always, looms the military, which could intervene if the president-elect shows signs of being soft on communism.

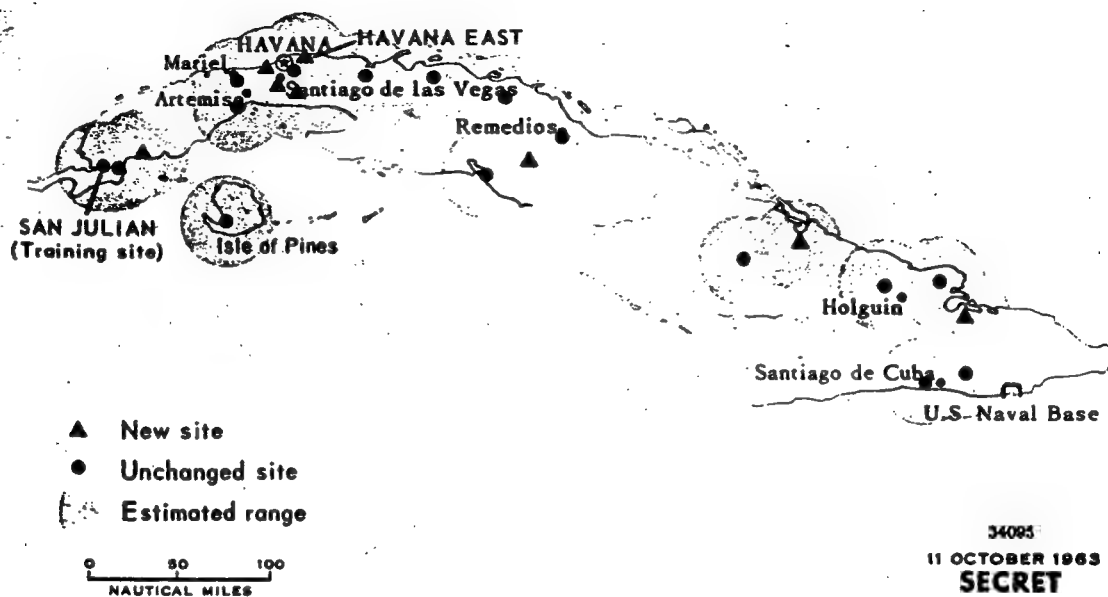
NBR

VBR

For The President Only - Top Secret

# CUBA

## Surface-to-Air Missile (SAM) Sites



3. USSR-Cuba

a. In the past week [redacted] Cuban military [redacted] that Cuban interpreters are now posted at several surface-to-air missile (SAM) sites on the island. 4 24 X

b. We think this means that on-site training of Cubans has begun on schedule. Field training is to last six months, after which the SAM system may be turned over to Castro.

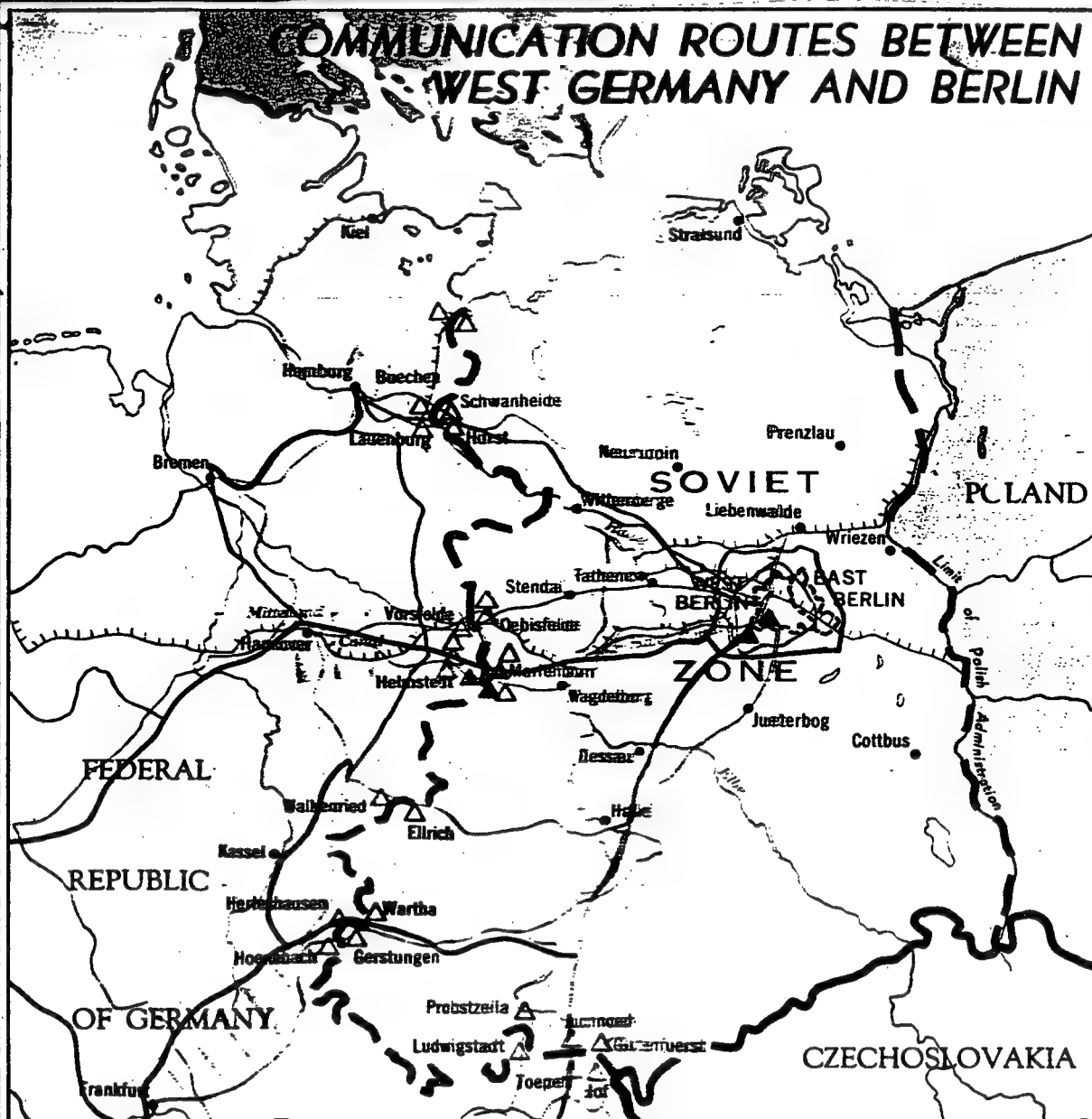
c. In the past month some 1,500 Soviets arrived in Cuba. Most of these were probably SAM experts, sent to monitor the training.

d. Prior to their coming, we had detected no more than a few hundred Soviet military personnel entering Cuba since the October crisis last year.

e. We estimate that at least 15,000, and probably closer to 18,000, have been withdrawn in the intervening 13 months, leaving, very roughly, 4,000 to 7,000. Those remaining are for the most part advisors whose main functions are to train and supervise Cubans in the use of weapons turned over to them.

(Cont'd)

# COMMUNICATION ROUTES BETWEEN WEST GERMANY AND BERLIN



NBR

— Railroad — Autobahn — Road  
— Canal — Air Corridor  
Control Points for Allied Traffic:  
▲ Soviet ▲ Allied  
International Border Crossing Points:  
△ East △ West

0 5 10 MILE  
0 5 10 KILOMETERS

UNCLASSIFIED

NBR

13-00000

f. All Soviet weapons introduced into Cuba last year have been withdrawn or turned over to the Cubans. The only significant exception is the SAM system.  
(Includes INTERCEPTS)

4. Berlin

a. We have had an indication that Soviet harassment of Allied access routes to West Berlin will shift this weekend to the air corridors.

*C.I.B. submission*  
b. The Soviet man at the Berlin air traffic control center told the Allied representatives yesterday that Soviet transports would be using the air corridors for brief flights during the next five weekends.

c. Moscow has tried on a number of past occasions to assert its right to restrict Allied use of the air corridors. In early 1962, the Soviets attempted to reserve "blocks" of air space for their own use. They have since demanded that Western flights stay between stipulated altitudes, that we file flight plans in advance and provide prior notice of border-crossing times.

(Cont'd)

d. This sort of harassment stopped in the spring of 1962 when Soviet leaders became convinced that the US was interested in a serious discussion of a Berlin settlement. Moscow may hope that the threat of more of this sort of harassment will jog the US into talks on Berlin.

5. Iraq-Syria-  
UAR

a. It now appears that President Arif's role in last Monday's coup in Baghdad may have been virtually that of a bystander.

c. Whatever Arif's role may have been, the coup was primarily an effort by the Iraqi Army to curtail the activities of the extreme wing of the Baath Party. The Baath is an Arab nationalist political organization, active throughout the Arab world, which has been ruling Iraq and Syria.

(Cont'd)



d. The coup group has not thrown all Baathists out of the government; there are party members in the new cabinet.

e. Syrian Baathists have welcomed this retention of their Iraqi brothers. Their attitude springs from the recognition that the Baath in Syria cannot stay afloat without support from Iraq.

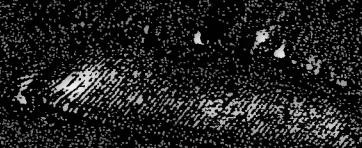
f. The reaction of Nasir's Egypt, which passionately desires to see the Baath go under, has been exactly the opposite. Cairo has been backing off its all-out support for the coup ever since the new cabinet was announced.

CIB

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NR

For The President Only - Top Secret



33741



VIR



# NOTES

## A. USSR

c/L  
20 Nov

NBR

B. Congo-USSR [ Soviet embassy personnel have not yet left Leopoldville, but their departure is expected momentarily. They were ordered out of the country after the Congolese turned up good documentary evidence of their complicity in anti-government plots. One of the items taken off a Soviet diplomat the other day was a letter from an anti-Adoula leader now in Brazzaville asking for funds and arms to overthrow the Leopoldville government.

TDCS  
3/565, 591  
22 Nov

NBR

C. Britain [ The Labor Party scored again in the Dundee West by-election Thursday, increasing its 1959 majority of 719 to a thumping 4,955. Heartened by this, Labor is now pushing for general elections at once. Prime Minister Home is not likely to accede.

NBR

## D. Ecuador

DD-A 3, 12, 13

CIWR  
FNO

NBR

(Cont'd)

**SOVIET EARTH SATELLITE VEHICLES - COSMOS SERIES**  
1962 - 1963

NBR

NBR

E. Thailand

F. USSR [Cosmos 22, launched a week ago, was recovered yesterday. It is the eleventh unmanned satellite to be recovered. All recoverable satellites have been launched from Tyuratam, the main Soviet missile test center, and recovered after three to ten days aloft.]

NBR

x

NBR

2/BR

ROUTING			
TO:	NAME AND ADDRESS	DATE	INITIALS
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	APPROVAL	DISPATCH	RECOMMENDATION
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# **THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST**

**ISSUED BY THE  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

**24 NOVEMBER 1963  
TOP SECRET**

1. North Vietnam -  
South Vietnam

a. North Vietnamese leaders are pressing their campaign for neutralization of South Vietnam.

b. They can count on Cambodia's support. Prince Sihanouk has said he believes neutralization of South Vietnam to be the only way to keep his country and the rest of the area from falling eventually into Communist hands.

c. The French feel the same way. Indeed, Souvanna Phouma reportedly told a closed session of the Laotian National Assembly that the French were urging him to support Hanoi in this.

d. Moreover, according to one of our clandestine sources, the North Vietnamese have talked Souvanna into backing the neutralization proposition in the UN.

e. The troublesome Polish ICC delegate in Laos, Marek Thee (who will be going home soon), has just returned to Vientiane from Hanoi and is trying, with somewhat less success, to enlist British support too.

(Cont'd)

*S/S Vientiane 623*

*Hanoi*

*IN 66678*

*Saigon 1068*

*S/Paris 2506*



f. As part of the same campaign, the North Vietnamese have told the French they believe sentiment is growing in the US for withdrawal of US forces. They reportedly plan to keep the heat on to encourage it.

g. Hanoi is at the same time trying quietly to encourage the belief that it is ready to be reasonable.

h. To hear Thee tell it, North Vietnamese leaders feel that neutrality for South Vietnam and eventual reunification is the only way they, too, can escape from Peiping's clutches.

## 2. Laos

Uttrian 622, 614

Mrs. 1726

Verbal from Hauck

a. As is usual in Laos, the tentative agreement for a cease-fire reached last week between Kong Le and Pathet Lao commander Singapo came to naught.

b. Each side accuses the other of planning to use a cease-fire to screen preparations for larger attacks.

c. There is scattered fighting in the Plaine des Jarres. Lao Army, neutralist, and Meo guerrilla elements are jointly engaged in a limited offensive in the Vang Vieng

NBR

(Cont'd)

For The President Only - Top Secret

NBR



area north of Vientiane on Route 13. They hope to gain control of that town and its small airfield.

d. We have been anticipating an expansion of the fighting with the recent advent of the dry season.

3. Cambodia

S/S Paris 2520

IN 67064, 67049

a. Sihanouk knows his actions against us have increased his vulnerability to the Communist bloc, and he is looking to the French to bail him out.

c. He apparently hopes that the availability of French aid will enable him to keep his balance with the Communists and fend off their pressure.

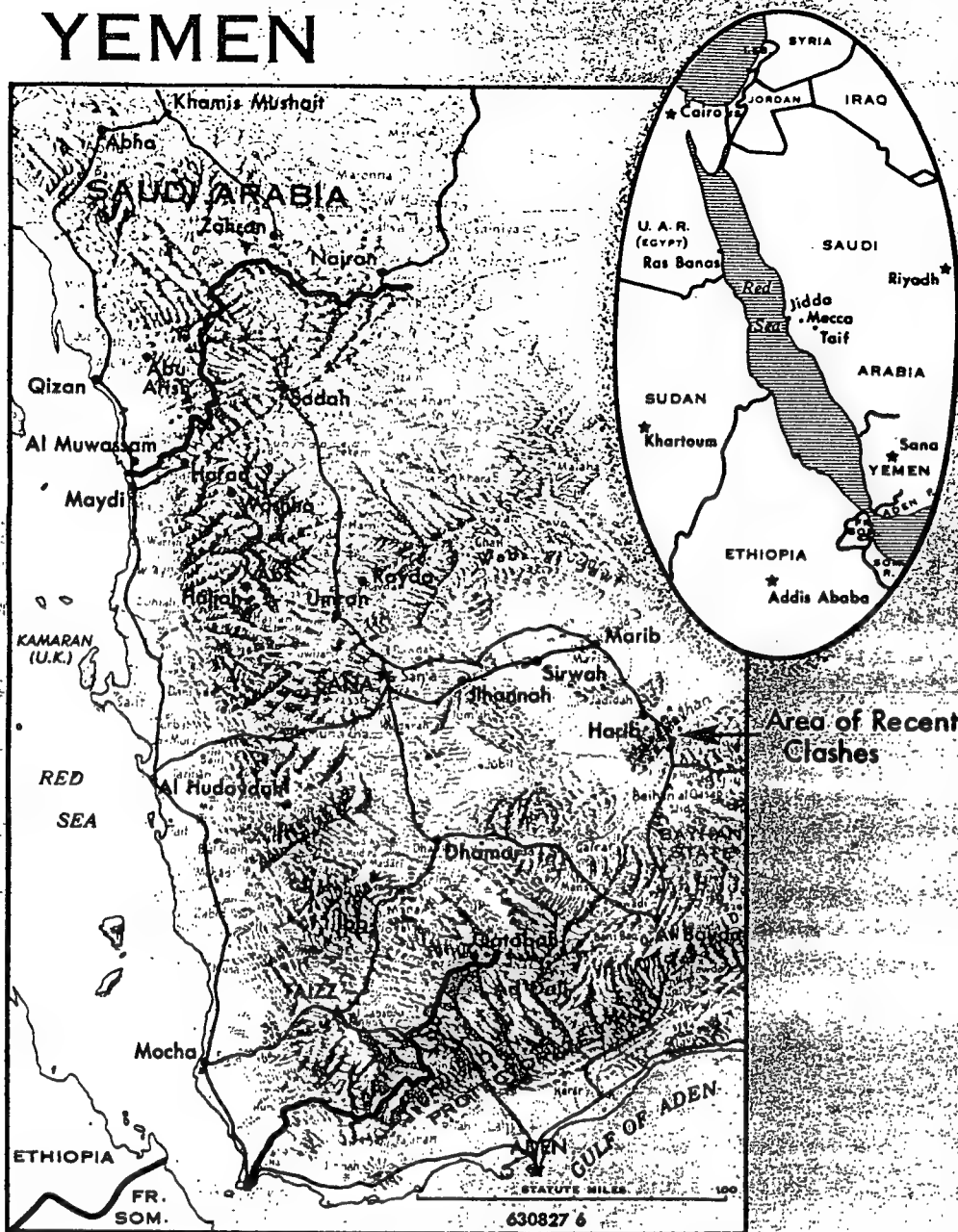
d. The French have told our Embassy in Paris that plans are afoot for French Defense Minister Messmer to go to Cambodia in January.

(Cont'd)

For The President Only - Top Secret

21BR

# YEMEN



e. Sihanouk's actions toward the US have not been universally popular. This is particularly true among government officials, the business community (who have reason to fear stepped-up nationalization), and the military, where the US retains a considerable reservoir of goodwill.

f. Indications are that Sihanouk will try to win fuller support by creating new feuds with neighboring South Vietnam and Thailand. This is a gambit he has used to advantage in past difficulties.

NBR

#### 4. Yemen-Egypt

a. A number of Yemeni leaders have told us they want the Egyptians to get out of the Yemen. They want to be left alone to solve their own problems.

b. This is especially true of those Sheikhs with large tribal followings.

NBR

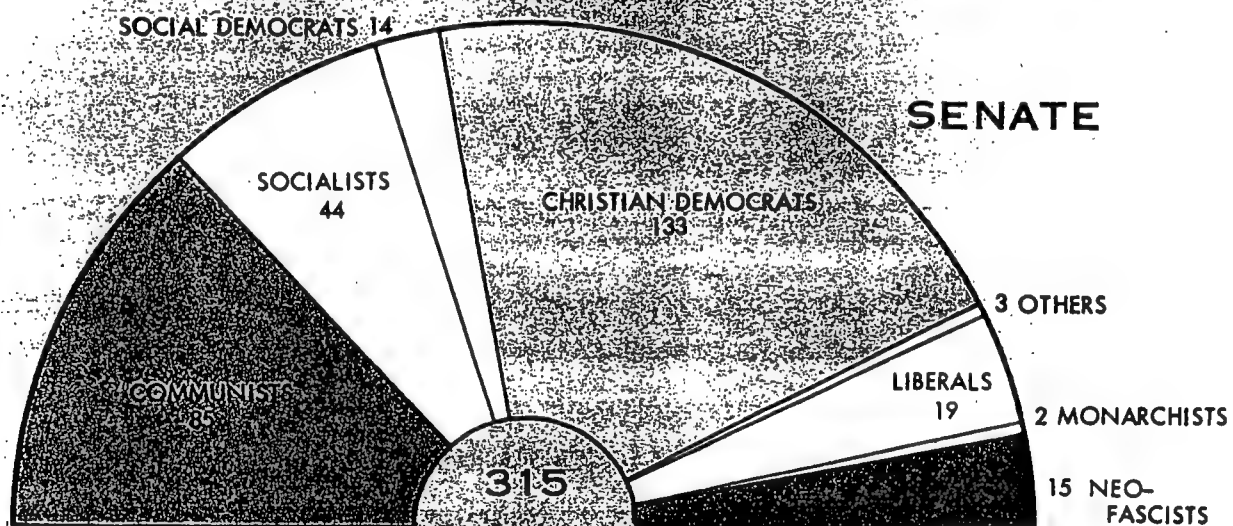
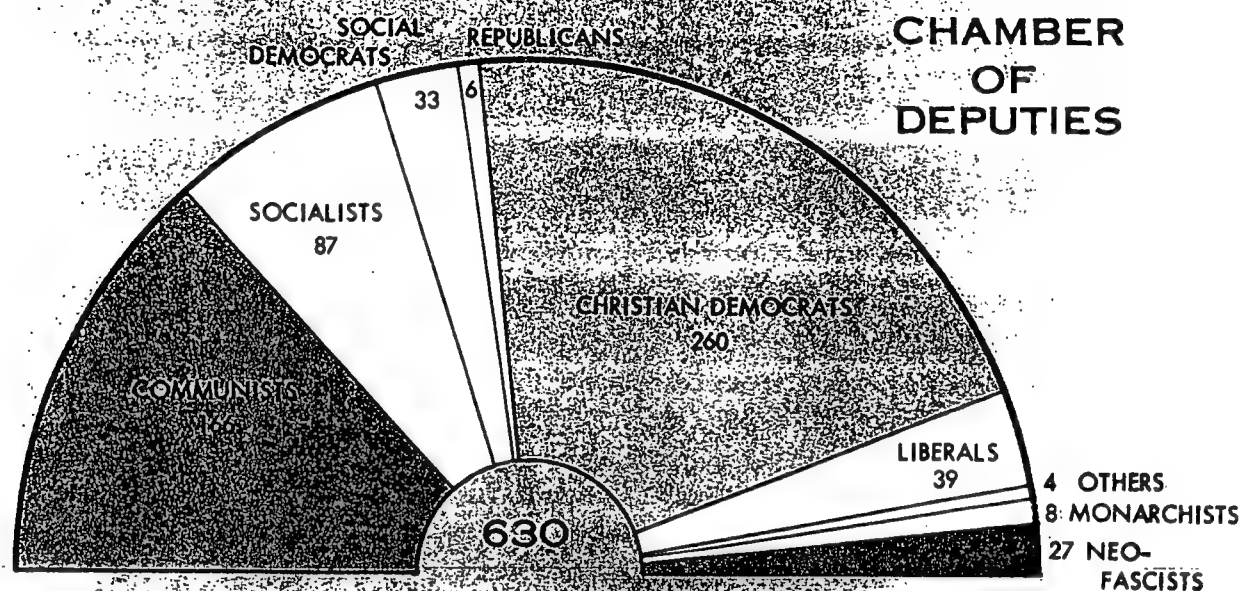
c. A general uprising against the Egyptians is not likely at the moment, but the longer they remain, the greater the possibility of major pro-government tribes deserting to the royalists.

(Cont'd)

For The President Only - Top Secret

2/BR

# PARTY COMPOSITION OF THE ITALIAN PARLIAMENT OCTOBER 1963



d. Nasir, with some 30,000 troops in the Yemen, has grudgingly promised to pull out 5,000 before the end of the year. So far there has been no sign he is preparing to do so.

NBR

#### 5. Italy

*Reuter 122, 154*

a. The Christian Democrats and Socialists have finally reached an agreement on cabinet assignments and a program for a "centerleft" coalition government.

b. Negotiations were especially tough, but apparently President Kennedy's death acted as a catalyst to bring the two together.

NBR

(Cont'd)

For The President Only - Top Secret

2/BR

*Anti Nenni*  
*CT-278-63*

d. With Moro premier, Nenni will probably become vice-premier. Saragat, who is pro-US and pro-NATO, is most likely to be named Foreign Minister.

*NBR*

For The President Only - Top Secret

*1/BR*

NOTES

*Am A*  
*New Delhi*  
*CX-278-63*

A. India-USSR The Indian military attache in Moscow feels that the Russians are dragging their feet in the matter of military assistance for India. Meanwhile, we have a report (not yet confirmed) from New Delhi that Defense Minister Chavan has decided to look to us hereafter for fighter aircraft.

*NBR*

*SR1*  
*Notes*  
*21 Nov*  
*Moscow*  
*Week 46*  
*15 Nov*

B. USSR Our Embassy in Moscow has gotten word of strikes recently at Ryazan, near Moscow, and in Leningrad. The cause of the Ryazan incident is not clear, but bread shortages apparently were behind the Leningrad strikes. Similar disturbances were reported last month from several points in southern Russia.

*NBR*

For The President Only - Top Secret

*2/BR*

PIC 25 Nov

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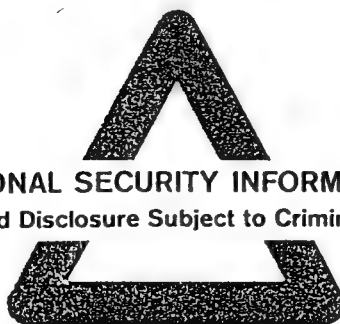
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3

# **THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST**

ISSUED BY THE  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

25 NOVEMBER 1963  
TOP SECRET

1. South Vietnam

a. Vietnamese Communist forces kept up their high post-coup level of activity over the weekend.

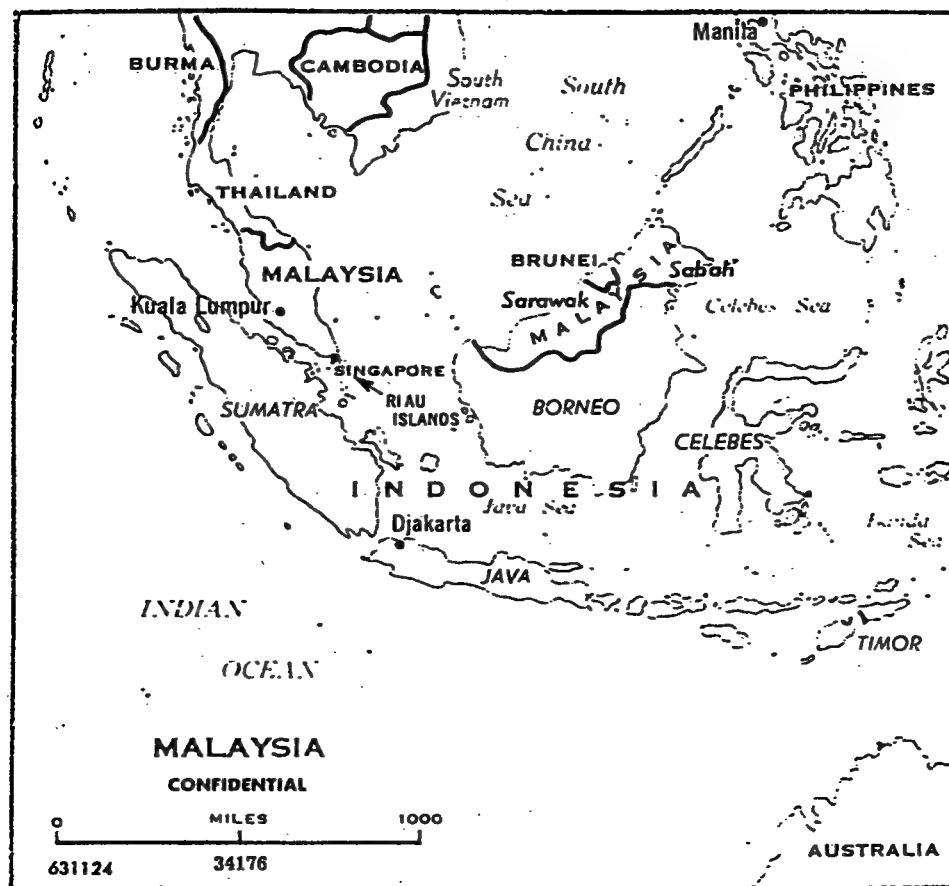
b. The most significant action was an attack early yesterday morning against a US special forces training camp some 30 miles from Saigon.

c. When the smoke cleared after a sharp fight, four US soldiers were missing and at least 35 South Vietnamese were dead.

d. Late yesterday morning, the Viet Cong shot down two aircraft supporting a government operation in the extreme south, and damaged twelve more. Two more Americans are missing in this action.

e. Back in Saigon, the new regime's troubles with the ambitious General Ton That Dinh continue.

f. He is still angling to get control of the important strategic hamlet program and has yet to give up command of the Third Corps, which the generals assigned to another of their number earlier in the month. This corps is of particular significance in that it surrounds Saigon.



2. Indonesia-  
Malaysia

a. Sukarno is beefing up the subversive aspects of his confrontation campaign against Malaysia.

NBR

3. Venezuela

a. The weekend was marred only by sporadic and minor acts of terrorism in several cities. Government security forces have the situation generally under control.

b. The Venezuelan Air Force is stepping up its efforts to track down and destroy intruder aircraft. The Venezuelans are convinced that planes have been ferrying supplies to pro-Castro guerrillas in the mountains of the northwest.

NBR

(Cont'd)

For The President Only - Top Secret

21BR



4. Iraq

a. The air of tension in Baghdad dissipated somewhat after the government lifted the curfew and once again permitted private vehicles on the streets.

b. Neither the city nor its new rulers are, however, at ease. Troops are still very much in evidence.

c. The new regime apparently is not convinced that the hard core of the Baath Party and its paramilitary supporters have been put down for good.

5. Syria

a. We have information that a showdown between the moderate and extremist factions of the ruling Baath Party in Syria is fast approaching.

(Cont'd)

For The President Only - Top Secret

3/BR

## 6. Italy

b. [REDACTED]

Prime Minister Hafiz as the leading figure on the side of moderation. General Umrans heads the doctrinaire extremists.

c. It was a split along the same lines that brought about the Baath Party's fall from power in Iraq.

NBR

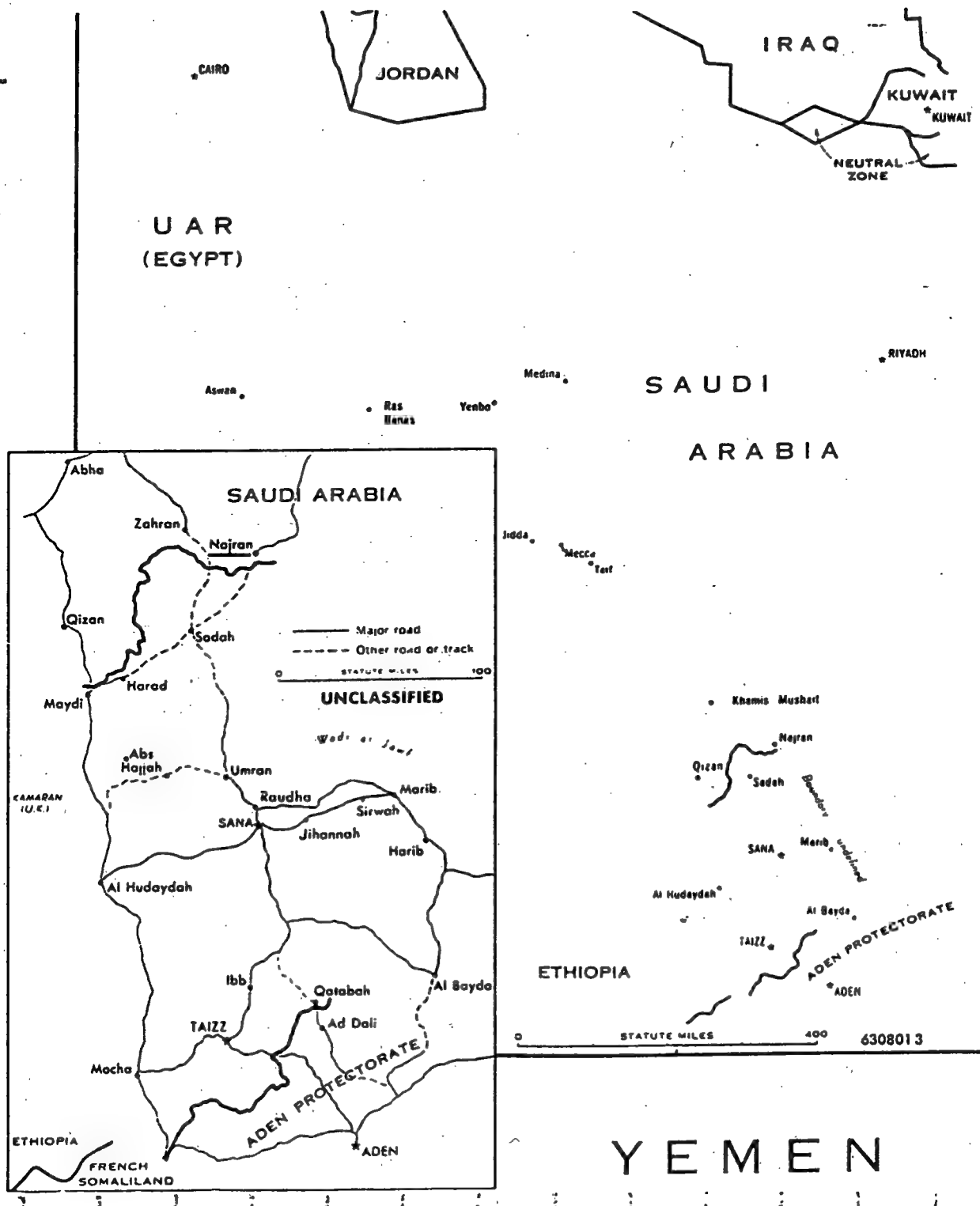
a. Premier-designate Moro expects that the program for a "center-left" coalition government will be approved today by the four parties involved.

c. After the program has been approved, the final selection of a cabinet can be undertaken. This could take the rest of the week.

NBR

For The President Only - Top Secret

2/BR





7. UAR-Yemen-  
Egypt

a. The Saudis told our embassy in Jidda yesterday that a Saudi village near the Yemeni border was attacked Thursday by Egyptian aircraft.

b. It was the second time this month that Yemeni-based Egyptian aircraft have struck across the border into Saudi Arabia.

c. As in the previous cases, the Saudis have lodged a formal complaint with the UN Observation Mission.

[REDACTED]

NBR

For The President Only - Top Secret

V/BR

NOTES

- A. Oswald Press stories to the effect that Lee Harvey Oswald recently visited Mexico City are true, according to our information. Oswald visited both the Cuban and the Soviet embassies on 28 September. He was trying, we are told, to arrange for visas so that he could travel to the USSR via Havana. He returned to the US on 3 October.
- B. Brazil A new round of military promotions and re-assignments will be made public today. The present instability of the Brazilian political scene is reflected in the numerous reports of coup plots which this event has precipitated. NRR
- C. USSR [redacted] Soviet range instrumentation ships [redacted]
- D. Algeria We have a report from a good clandestine source that a group of army officers is plotting with Defense Minister Boumedienne to overthrow Ben Bella. A growing estrangement between the two has been apparent for some time, but this is the first good indication that Boumedienne is making common cause with those who wish to turn Ben Bella out of office.

(Cont'd)

For The President Only - Top Secret

S/BSR

E. Australia - Communist China Peiping has signed contracts for just over one million tons of Australian grain to be delivered early next year. We had been expecting the Chinese Communists to enter the market, since they had another mediocre grain crop this year. Peiping has been buying close to five million tons of grain for the past several years.

NBR

F. Congo We hear that the Soviet Embassy in Leopoldville had booked 75 places on a flight to Brussels last Saturday. There is still no information on whether any Soviet Embassy officials have actually departed, however.

NBR

G. Berlin There was no new harassment of Allied access routes to Berlin over the weekend. A total of 16 flares were fired last evening near Tempelhof Airfield, but we connect these with Communist efforts to prevent escapes from East Berlin. East German police were observed stringing barbed wire in the same area a short time later.

NBR

H. Laos The neutralists claim to have made significant gains in their limited offensive in the Vang Vieng area. They have not, however, been able to dislodge the Pathet Lao from positions within artillery range of the town's airport.

NBR

For The President Only - Top Secret

41BR

Pec 26 Nov

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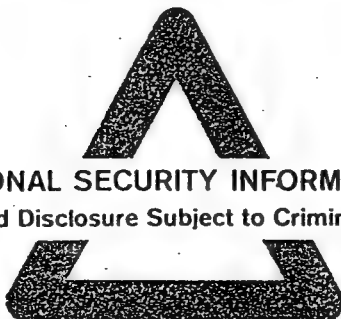
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4

## **THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST**

ISSUED BY THE

**CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

26 NOVEMBER 1963  
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1. Iraq-Syria

a. The shaky new accommodation between the two countries following the recent coup in Iraq has been threatened by Syria's action in granting asylum to Ali Saleh Saadi, the exiled leader of the extremist wing of the Iraqi Baath.

b. Saadi had arrived in Syria unannounced following a brief stay in Madrid. On Friday, Iraq sent a message asking Syria to expel him on grounds that sheltering him was a breach of agreement.

c. Both regimes continue to be troubled with internal dissension with affairs in one deeply tangled with those in the other.

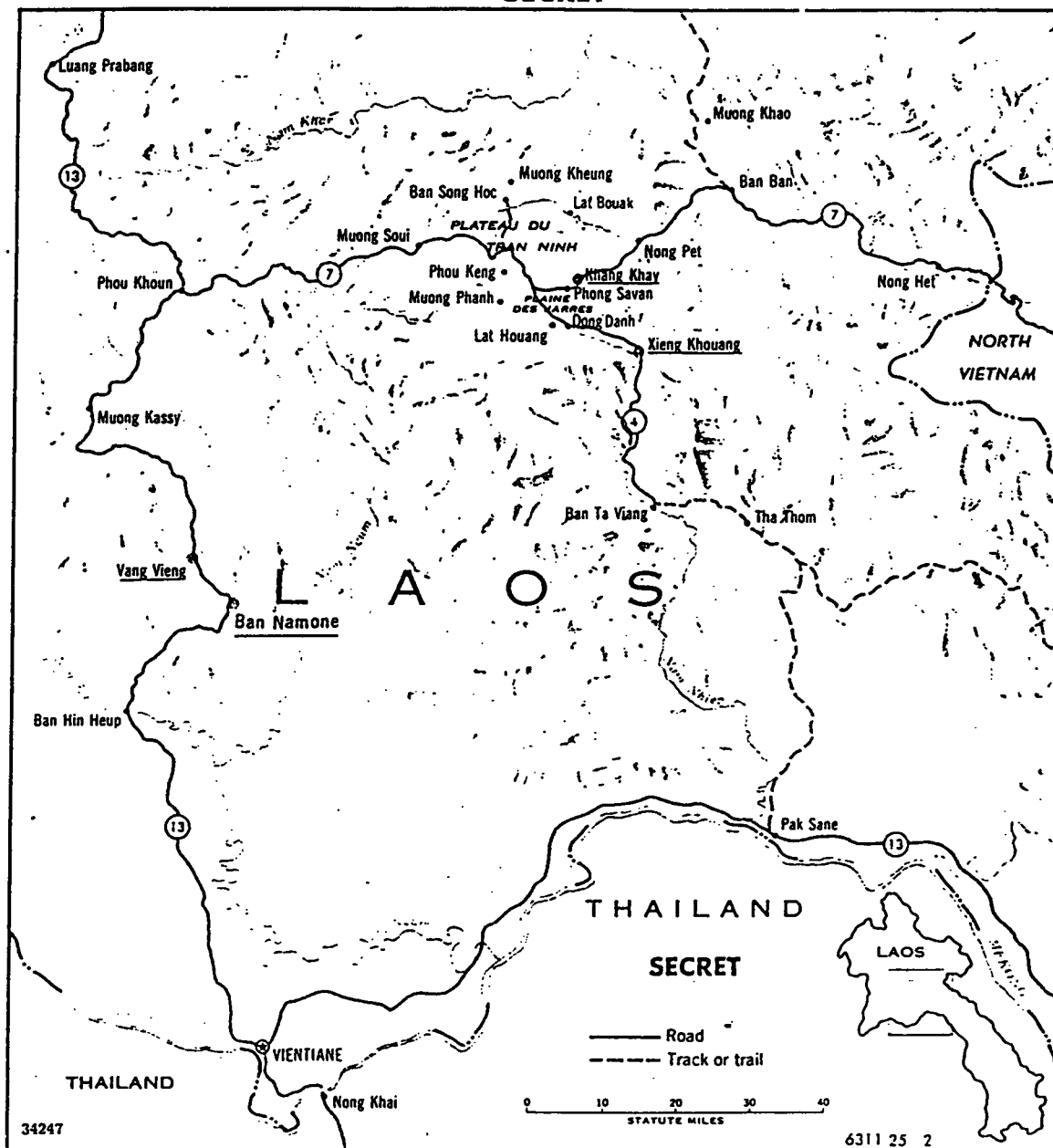
NBR  
d. In Syria, as we mentioned yesterday, the Baathist regime is split between moderates who desire a broadening of the government's power base, and a doctrinaire faction which wants to keep all control of the government in Baathist hands.

e. In Iraq, the pull is more away from the Baathists. Two ministers have threatened to resign unless the government adopts an openly pro-Egyptian policy. Nevertheless the government feels secure enough to ease up on curfew and transport restrictions imposed since the coup.

(Cont'd)

1/BR

SECRET



SECRET

NBR

f. Iraq has announced that the military union with Syria remains in force, and that a new commander of the joint armies will be announced soon.

## 2. Laos

a.

government forces had finally secured Vang Vieng and its airfield, long held by the Pathet Lao. They also told of the capture of Ban Namone farther south on Route 13.

NBR

b. The neutralist, rightist Lao Army, and Meo tribal guerrilla forces hope to sustain their coordinated clearing action until remaining Pathet Lao pockets in this area north of Vientiane are cleared.

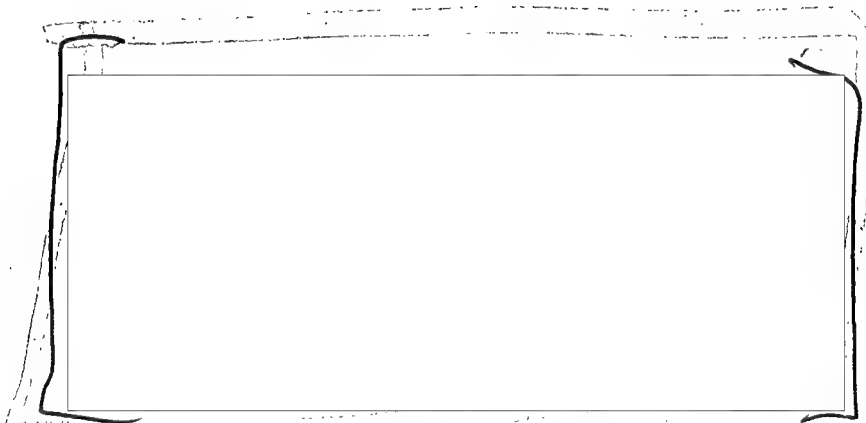
c. Such operations in Laos have often been followed by a Communist riposte. We have a few indicators that something could be up on the Communist side, but these are so far very tenuous indeed.

(Cont'd)

For The President Only - Top Secret

2/BR





### 3. South Vietnam

a. According to press reports, Viet Cong attacks on Sunday wiped out two of the government's strategic hamlets in the central highlands about 250 miles north of Saigon.

b. More than 1,000 inhabitants in the hamlets--who are minority tribesmen--are missing and possibly have fled into the mountains. They abandoned a significant quantity of weapons to the Viet Cong.

c. These attacks not only suggest continued erosion of the government's programs to win over tribal support, but also signal that stepped-up Viet Cong pressure against the new régime is spreading to the north.

(Cont'd)

For The President Only - Top Secret

NBR

NBR

NBR

d. This Communist effort is aimed at discrediting the post-Diem regime before the new leadership is able to get its feet on the ground and capture the loyalty and respect of people in the provinces.

e. Although the Viet Cong still continues to draw its main strength from local recruiting, a steady stream of cadre and training personnel continues to make its way to the south from North Vietnam along the Laotian border.

f. We are now reasonably sure that at least 784 persons infiltrated from the north during 1963 and the actual total may be much higher.

#### 4. USSR

b. We probably should have had by now an announcement closing an area roughly 500 miles south of Johnston Island to shipping. We suspect the Soviets may have delayed it in order not to appear to be rattling rockets immediately after President Kennedy's death.

(Cont'd)

For The President Only - Top Secret

1/BR

5. USSR-Berlin

a. Embassy Bonn feels that the Soviet Union may be seeking at least a temporary modus vivendi on the autobahn without prejudicing its juridical position, which can be used to cause difficulties there in the future.

b. The embassy bases this on the Soviet replies to the Western notification to the USSR on 29 October regarding harmonized convoy procedures--two oral statements on 16 November and a note of 21 November.

NBR

(Cont'd)

For The President Only - Top Secret

2/BR

c. The Soviet note was designed to make a record, showing that the USSR exercises "control" of the autobahn and that the recent incidents resulted from US refusal to comply with "existing procedures."

d. On the other hand, the Soviet procedures described in the oral replies seem to reflect actual Allied practices, though there is enough ambiguity to afford the USSR flexibility in any future actions.

NBR

#### 6. Brazil

a. The danger of an immediate coup against the Goulart regime has receded with the reported decision of Second Army Commander General Bevilaqua not to join the coup plotters.

b. Bevilaqua [redacted] may have been asked to hand over his command [redacted] as part of a series of reassignments made by President Goulart to keep the military off balance.

NBR

c. On the other side of the coin, there is widespread belief that Goulart himself will at some time resort to a coup to establish an authoritarian regime.

(Cont'd)

For The President Only - Top Secret

2/NBR

NBR

e. [redacted]

Goulart [redacted]

[redacted] seems either out of touch with reality or very poorly informed. Public opinion is not with him and the tradition that political power should only be transferred constitutionally is very strong in the army, coup reports notwithstanding.

f. The biggest danger from this quarter is that the opposition may resort to some illegal act, giving Goulart the excuse to take over.

For The President Only - Top Secret

1/BR

NOTES

- A. Ethiopia-Congo Haile Selassie has acceded to our ~~ambassador's~~ request and is rescinding his earlier decision to withdraw the 1,743-man Ethiopian contingent from the UN force in the Congo. NBR
- B. Communist China - Africa [redacted] Premier Chou En-lai will leave in mid-December for a tour of some Afro-Asian countries. He is to stop first in Egypt and then visit several other African countries including Guinea, Ghana, and Mali. Chou would be the highest ranking Chinese leader ever to visit Africa. [redacted] NBR
- C. Indonesia-Philippines [redacted] President Sukarno plans to go to Manila this Thursday to confer with Philippine President Macapagal. No reasons have been advanced for the visit. Our charge guesses that it is an Indonesian move to head off Philippine recognition of Malaysia. NBR
- D. Venezuela The terrorists have struck again, this time firing six US-owned oil and gas pipelines near the northeastern city of Puerto la Cruz. The elections are still on for Sunday, and we look for a maximum effort from the pro-Castro terrorist organization. NBR
- E. Congo We now have word that 49 members of the Soviet Embassy, including dependents, left Leopoldville on Saturday aboard a Sabena flight for Brussels. They are expected to book onward passage for Moscow. It is reported that the Congolese will allow one Russian without diplomatic status to stay to look after Soviet property. NBR

For The President Only - Top Secret

5/BR

27 Nov

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5

# **THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST**

ISSUED BY THE  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

27 NOVEMBER 1963  
TOP SECRET

SECRET

SECRET



CUBA

● SAM SITE

0 100  
NAUTICAL MILES

631126 6

SECRET

1. Cuba

a. Cuban tents are now beginning to appear at a number of the SAM sites--further evidence that training of Cubans in operation of SAM equipment has begun as scheduled.

b. High-altitude photography taken this past weekend shows these tents at six SAM sites in western Cuba. These sites are in addition to those at which we noted the presence of Cuban interpreters as we reported on Saturday.

c. This training should be completed by next May or June.

d. Just before the training started, we noted a series of moves involving the relocation of eight of the SAM sites.

e. The purpose, it appears, was to shift the mission of the system from an area defense of the island as a whole to point defense of specific targets, particularly Havana. [REDACTED]

2. Syria-Iraq

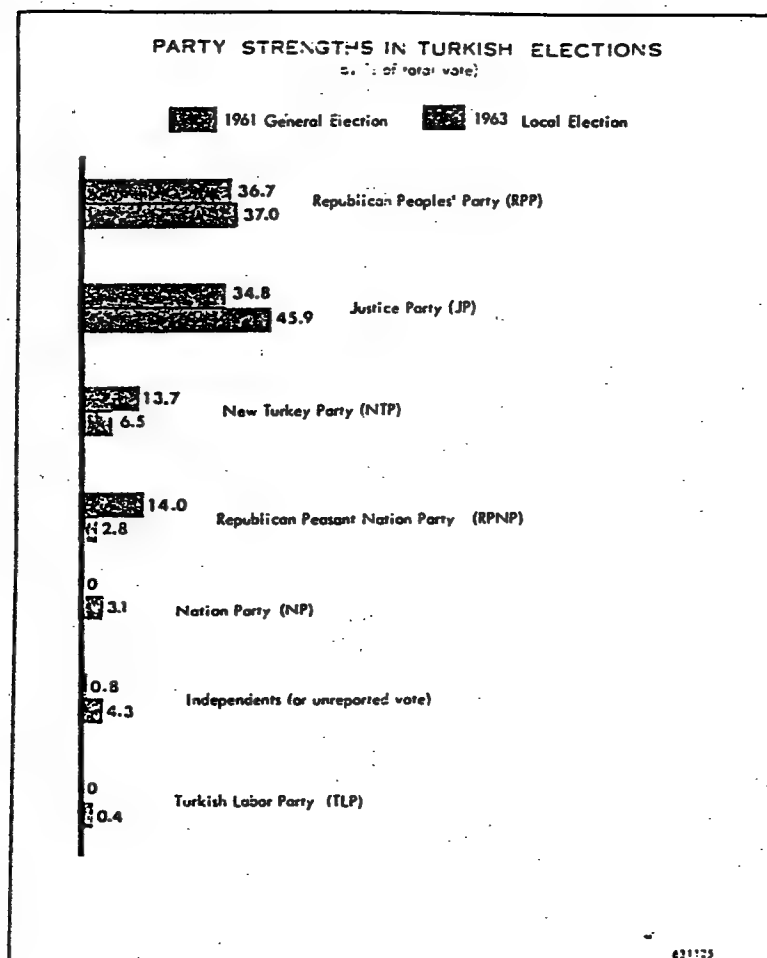
a. Syrian leaders have acceded to pressure from Iraq and have expelled Iraqi Baathist extremist Ali Saadi. He has gone to Athens

For The President Only - Top Secret

24

NBR

2/BR



b. This is an earnest of the desire of moderate Baathist leaders in Damascus to preserve workable relations with Iraq, partly as a counterbalance to Cairo and partly to preserve what remains of Baathist influence in Baghdad.

c. [redacted] at least some Syrian troops will remain in Iraq at the request of Iraqi officials.

d. Preparations had been under way for these forces to withdraw; retention of at least some in Iraq is another sign that both regimes hope to preserve something of the relations they once had.

[redacted]

NBR

### 3. Turkey

a. Prime Minister Inonu's coalition government is about to collapse.

b. It has long been shaky. Last week it was dealt a severe setback when the opposition Justice Party, heir of the Menderes regime, emerged from local elections as the country's majority party.

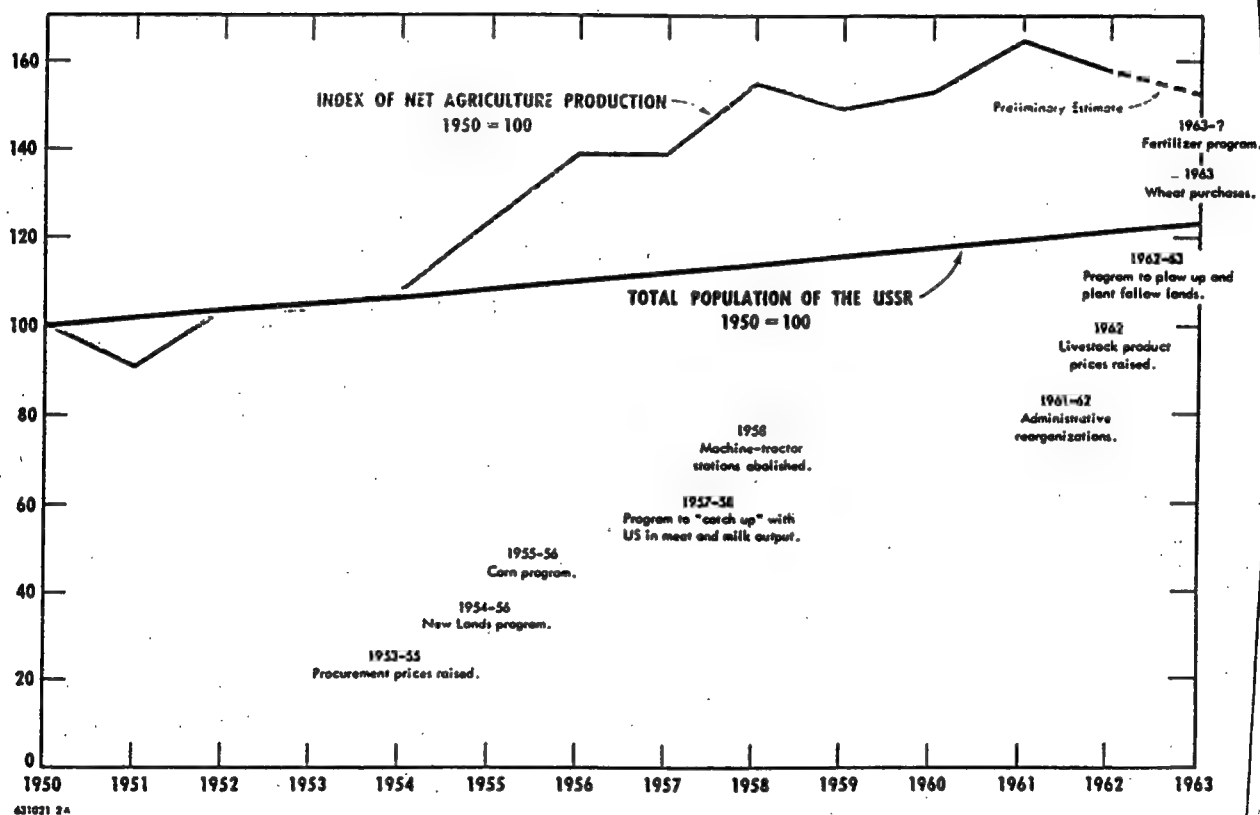
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## MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS IN SOVIET AGRICULTURE



## SOVIET GRAIN PRODUCTION

(million metric tons)

	ALL GRAINS		WHEAT ALONE	
	Soviet Official	US Estimate	Soviet Official	US Estimate
1958	141	125	77	63
1959	126	100	69	55
1960	134	100	64	46
1961	137	115	67	55
1962	148	115	71	57
1963	—	100-110	—	42-46

431021 28

CONFIDENTIAL

NBR

NBR

c. Now the Peasant Party, one of the three in the coalition, has voted to pull out, and probably will do so as soon as Inonu gets back from Washington. Another partner, the Turkey Party, has wanted to pull out.

d. A new coalition is at least a theoretical possibility, with a number of independents taking the place of the Peasant Party, but Inonu probably would not be prime minister.

e. The military are working for an all-party coalition. This way, they feel, they could keep tabs on the Justice Party, but the Justice Party is not likely to buy this arrangement.

f. As matters now stand, the military would take over the government itself before it would let the Justice Party form one.

4. USSR wheat

a.

the decision to buy wheat abroad was taken to avoid lowering reserves, which he has described as ample for one or two years. We think the situation is more serious than that.

(Cont'd)

For The President Only - Top Secret

21BR

b. This year's harvest was clearly very bad. The weight of evidence suggests that Soviet grain stockpiles have been far drawn down this year and are not sufficient to protect the country from another poor harvest.

c. Our estimate is that total grain production each year since 1958 has been well below that year's level of 125 million tons, while the population has continued to grow.

d. We have seen [redacted] signs of extensive slaughtering in anticipation of fodder shortages during the winter. This runs counter to Khrushchev's oft-stated plan to build up the livestock industry. NBR

e. We have also noted that the extensive wheat purchases weaken the USSR's gold reserves at a time when it hopes to expand its imports of machinery for a huge chemical fertilizer program.

f. In addition, we have seen signs of stringent measures to protect the grain supply, accompanied by public discontent in some areas over the absence of bread.

(Cont'd)

For The President Only - Top Secret

NBR



5. Communist  
China -  
Argentina

a. Peiping last week contracted for some 300,000 tons of wheat (cost about \$20,000,000) from Argentina.

b. This adds to the 1,000,000 tons just contracted for with Australia, but is still far below the 5,000,000 tons the Chinese have normally imported in recent years. Additional suppliers will be hard to find.

NBR

For The President Only - Top Secret

NBR

6. Czechoslovakia-  
USSR

a. Czech President and party boss Novotny has gone to Moscow, evidently for economic talks, judging by the composition of his delegation.

b. Novotny's background of Stalinist excesses have put him on the wrong side of Khrushchev. They also have given rise to control problems, particularly in the fractious Slovak party where pressures for liberalization have made their mark.

c. Party problems and Novotny's leadership may thus also come under review.

d. A curious sign of the times is the fact that, although President Novotny is in Moscow, the presidential flag has remained up at the official residence. It might simply have been an oversight, but the symbolism will not be lost to the people in Prague.

NBR

7. Cambodia

a. Cambodia, as expected, has asked the Geneva co-chairman to call the Geneva conference participants together (in Djakarta) to discuss measures "to ensure the internationally guaranteed and controlled neutralization of Cambodia."

NBR

(Cont'd)

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2/BR



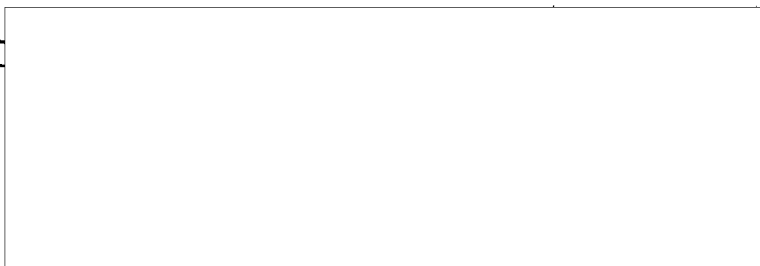
b. Last year when this came up, the French were inclined to go along with some such idea.

c. They have indicated to us that they still feel Sihanouk should not be turned down, and Sihanouk is obviously hopeful that they will exert pressure on us and the British.

d. Sihanouk seems to be hoping for at least a rump session attended by conferees who are willing to do his bidding.

NBR

8. Egypt-Yemen



NBR

(Cont'd)

For The President Only - Top Secret

2/BR

9. Congo

a. Opposition leftist Congolese exiles, operating from Brazzaville across the river, are reported to be plotting to assassinate Congolese Premier Adoula and some of his ministers.

d. Adoula's government already knows that this group of left-wing subversives, which now numbers about 50, is being helped by the Communist bloc.

e. It operates fairly freely in the loose circumstances which now obtain in Brazzaville. Its activities may soon become a serious source of friction between the two countries.

For The President Only - Top Secret

(SC NLT-085/93 B11)

2/BR

NOTES

- A. South Korea With 85 percent of the vote in, Pak Chong-hui's Democratic Republican Party has already won an absolute majority in the National Assembly elections held yesterday. NBR
- B. Venezuela The country's three major presidential candidates were the targets of unsuccessful assassination attempts yesterday as Communist-led terrorists moved into the final week of desperate attempt to wreck next Sunday's elections. A US Embassy official was also the intended recipient of a "Christmas package" containing a bomb. Yesterday a US rubber warehouse was set afire and destroyed by terrorists. NBR
- C. Indonesia-Philippines [REDACTED] NBR
- D. Indonesia-Malaysia Indonesian-inspired press reports yesterday claimed a British military plane was shot down near the North Borneo border. [REDACTED] NBR
- E. Cuba The alert in the Cuban military which we noted immediately after President Kennedy's death has been lifted. (INTERCEPT)

(Cont'd)

For The President Only - Top Secret

4/BR

F. Cambodia Cambodia is cutting its diplomatic representation abroad to a bare minimum as an austerity measure following curtailment of US aid. Sihanouk announced last week that this would be done, saying that missions in Communist countries would not be affected since those countries "protect" Cambodia. Curiously enough, among the missions being closed down are those in New Delhi and Rangoon.

NBR

G. USSR-US Pravda this morning reports on Gromyko's talks with President Johnson, giving top play to Senator Fulbright's remarks about the desirability of a meeting between the President and Khrushchev.

NBR

2/BR

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DOCUMENTS OF INTEREST

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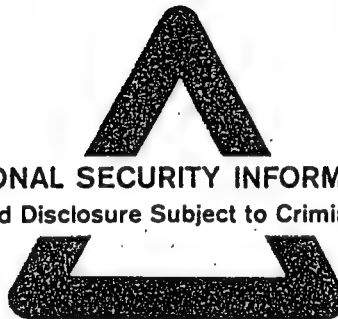
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Mandatory Review

Case # NLJ 93-381

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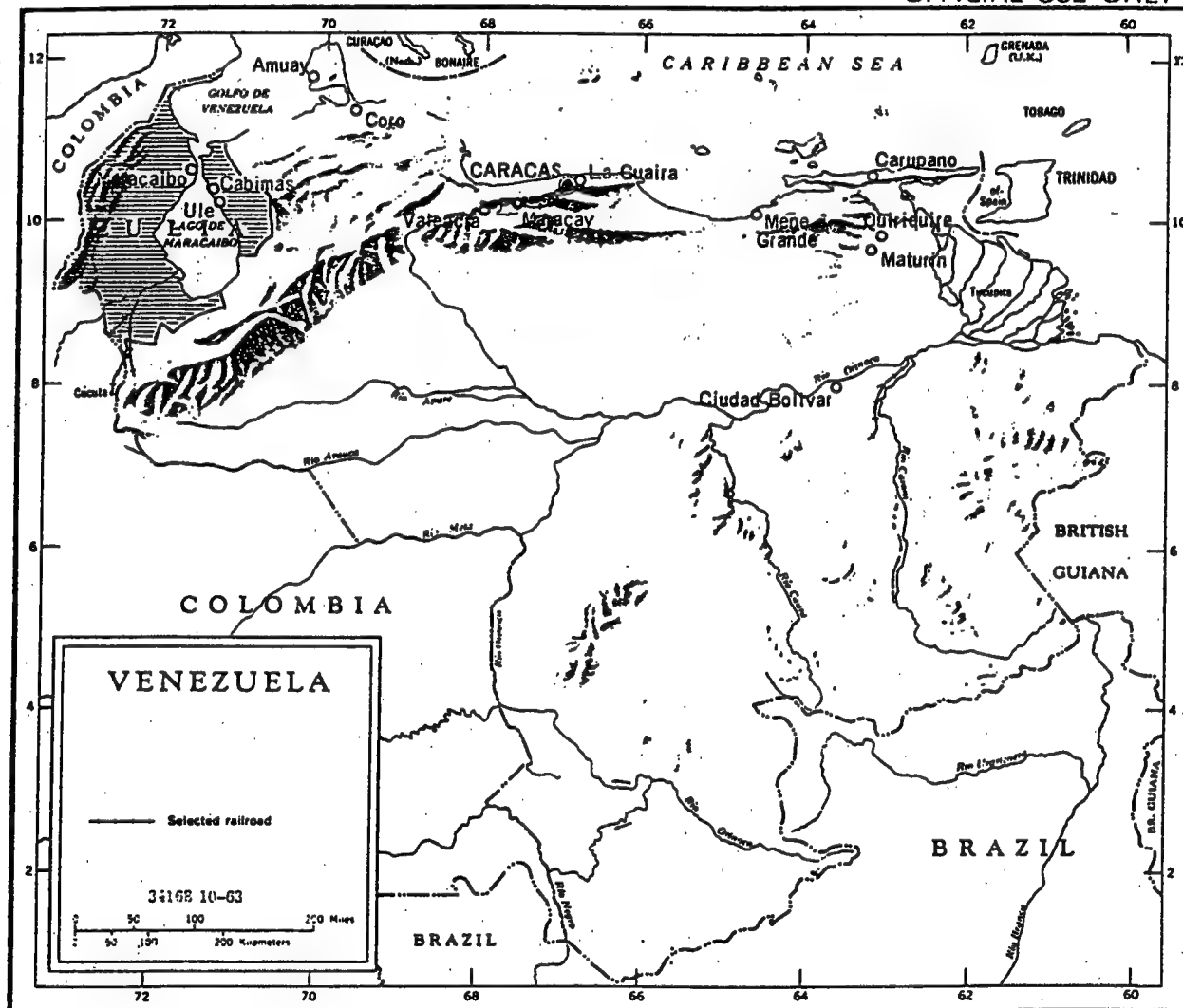
# THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

✓  
President  
Read  
during briefing  
by McCon  
B109

ISSUED BY THE  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

28 NOVEMBER 1963  
TOP SECRET

[SC-NLJ-088/93 B11]



NBR

1/BR

(SC-NLT-088193 B11)

1. Venezuela

a. The country's six presidential candidates have swung into the home stretch of their campaigns. So have the terrorists, who are still trying hard to sabotage next Sunday's vote.

b. There is little doubt that the terrorist effort has all-out Cuban support. Castro looks on Venezuela as his prime target in Latin America and would do everything in his power to prevent President Betancourt from finishing his term.

c. So far, the terrorists have tried to intimidate the candidates by harassing political rallies, bombing their party headquarters in various cities, and threatening them with assassination. They have tried to scare voters from the polls by creating a general atmosphere of lawlessness. Kidnappings, like the one yesterday morning of Colonel Chenault, are part of the pattern.

d. The government counterattack is under the personal direction of Betancourt, who is as determined to finish out his term and turn over power to a freely-elected successor as Castro is to prevent this.

NBR

(Cont'd)

For The President Only - Top Secret

NBR

[SC-NLT-088/93 B/1]

e. Yesterday it was announced that the carrying of firearms by anyone outside the security forces was forbidden until the elections are over.

f. Some 3,000 reservists have been called up to protect the polls. Leaves are being cancelled and all security forces are maintaining a high state of alert.

NBR

## 2. South Vietnam

a. We now have a fuller account from official US sources of the Viet Cong attack on two mountain villages mentioned in Tuesday's Checklist.

b. This account makes it clear that the earlier press versions, which spoke of 1,000 missing villagers, were highly colored.

c. Our present information is that the attack, in company strength, was successfully repulsed. The Viet Cong suffered some 30 casualties; government losses were six killed, three wounded and 39 missing.

(Cont'd)

For The President Only - Top Secret

NBR

(SC-NLT-088/93 B11)

d. As is usual in these cases, the villagers began to trickle back once the Viet Cong left.

e. This episode aside, we see a number of indications that the Communists will try to sustain the higher level of military activity they have kept up since the coup.

f. The Communist radio has called for more attacks in an effort to destroy strategic hamlets and "develop" Viet Cong forces. In support of this, Viet Cong communications traffic has been unusually heavy and has involved a large volume of high priority traffic and special alert patterns.  
(Includes INTERCEPTS)

### 3. Israel

NBR

(Cont'd)

For The President Only - Top Secret

NBR

(SC-NLT-088/93 B/1)

#### 4. USSR-India

c.

there are some Indians who have doubts about the Soviet willingness to live up to the letter of their military aid agreements with New Delhi.

(Cont'd)

For The President Only - Top Secret

21BR  
[SCNLT-08893 B1]

5. Burma

a. Ne Win has followed up his action in breaking off talks with the Burmese Communists by arresting over 700 of their number.

b. Ne Win had been trying to lure the faction-ridden Communists into a "national front." However, he found the demands of the Communist negotiators, some of whom had only just returned from long exile in Peiping, to be impossible.

c. This will probably lead to renewed fighting between the army and Communist guerrillas in the hills.

d. More trouble can also be expected from the rebellious ethnic minorities like the Karens and the

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NRR

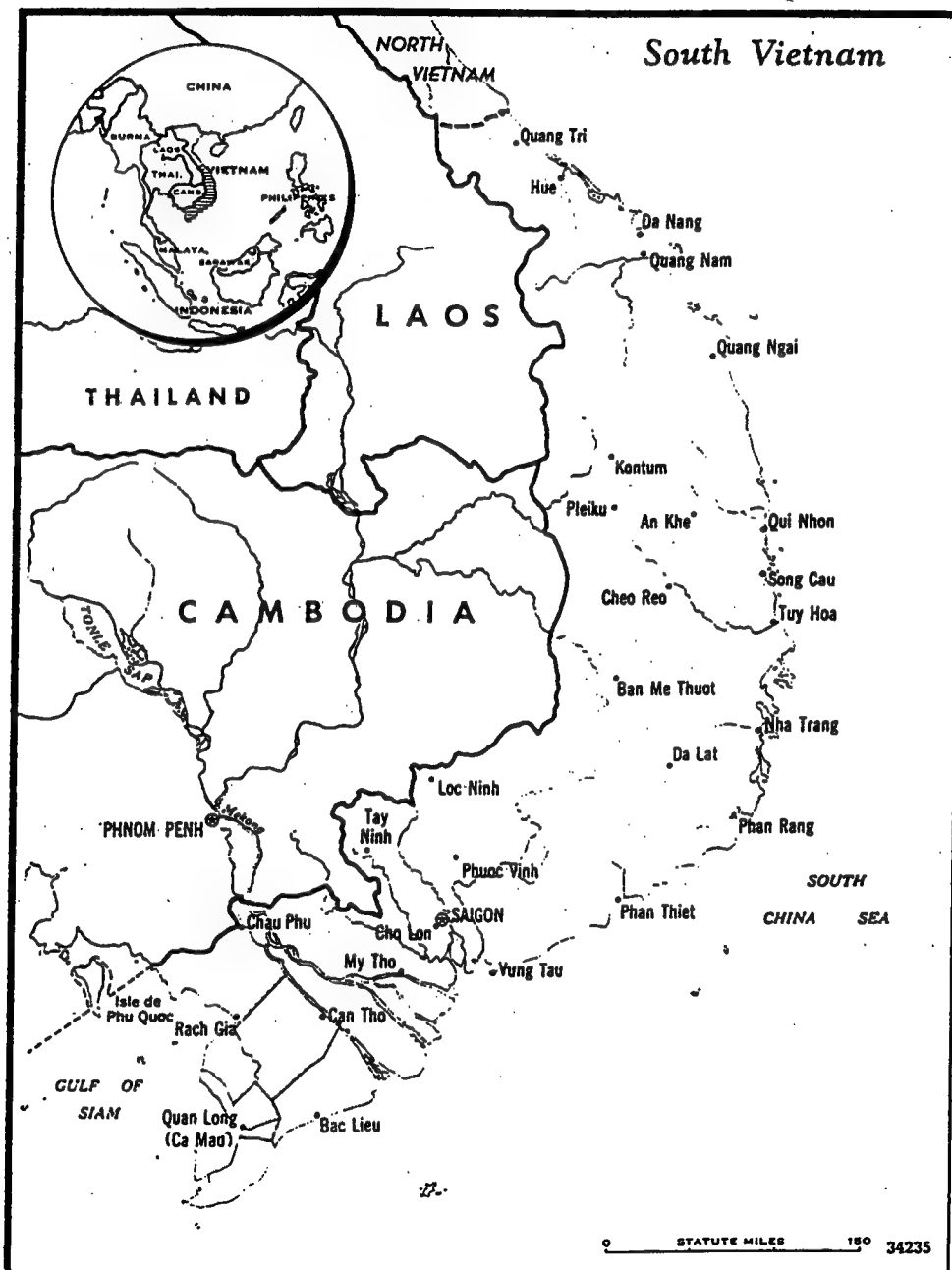
(Cont'd)

21BR

For The President Only - Top Secret

SC-NLJ-088193 15117





(SC-NLT-058193 B11)

Kachins, whose demands for greater autonomy have been rejected in Rangoon.

e. US officials on the spot doubt that the army, hobbled by poor leadership and its many political responsibilities, will be any more effective in dealing with the problem this time than in past anti-insurgency campaigns.

NBR

6. Cambodia

a. Sihanouk has signed an accord setting up regular air service between Cambodia and Communist China. A similar agreement with Hanoi is in the works.

b. These lines are significant largely as gestures by Peiping and Hanoi to bolster Sihanouk's sense of importance. Neither would be a paying proposition commercially and both could flounder before the first paying passenger enplanes unless rights to overfly Laos can be obtained.

NBR

7. Greece

a. It looks more and more as if Papandreou, who squeaked through to a narrow upset victory over ex-premier Karamanlis in the 3 November elections, will not be able to form a government.

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(Cont'd)

For The President Only - Top Secret

3/BR

(SC-NLT-058/93 B11)

b. His party does not have a parliamentary majority, so he needs support from either Karamanlis' party on the right or from the Communists. [REDACTED]

c. The military has [REDACTED] let it be known that it would consider Papandreu's acceptance of Communist support as sufficient reason for a coup d'etat.

[REDACTED] Should Papandreu fail to form a government, the palace intends to pass the mandate to Karamanlis, believing that he too would fail.

e. This would then open the way, [REDACTED] for a compromise premier more amenable to palace influence.

8. Brazil

a. President Goulart and his opponents are keeping political tensions in Brazil high.

(Cont'd)

For The President Only - Top Secret

2/BR

(SC-NLT-088/93 B/D)

b. Comments by Goulart, that "social disaster" is sure if his program is not passed soon, have drawn sharp rejoinders from moderate and conservative figures and have fed rightist coup plotting.

c. Strains are also growing in the military following the arrest of a young officer who refused last month to execute an order to arrest Governor Lacerda, a leading conservative spokesman [REDACTED]

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V/BR

For The President Only - Top Secret

(SC-NLT-086/93 B17)

NOTES

A. USSR [REDACTED]

NBR

B. Rumania-US Rumanian officials are about to award a US firm, Ferguson and Company of Cleveland, Ohio, a \$32 million contract to help build the huge Galati steel plant. The Rumanians are pressing ahead with this project in the face of Soviet efforts to discourage it in various ways, most importantly by refusing to underwrite the scheme to any substantial degree.

NBR

C. Turkey The New Turkey Party has followed the Peasant Party in withdrawing from the present three-party coalition government. This means that the coalition has to all intents and purposes collapsed, even though no formal action will be taken until Prime Minister Inonu returns from Washington this weekend.

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D. Thailand Sarit [REDACTED] is in critical condition. [REDACTED] the most likely successor would be Thanom Kittikachorn, now deputy prime minister and minister of defense.

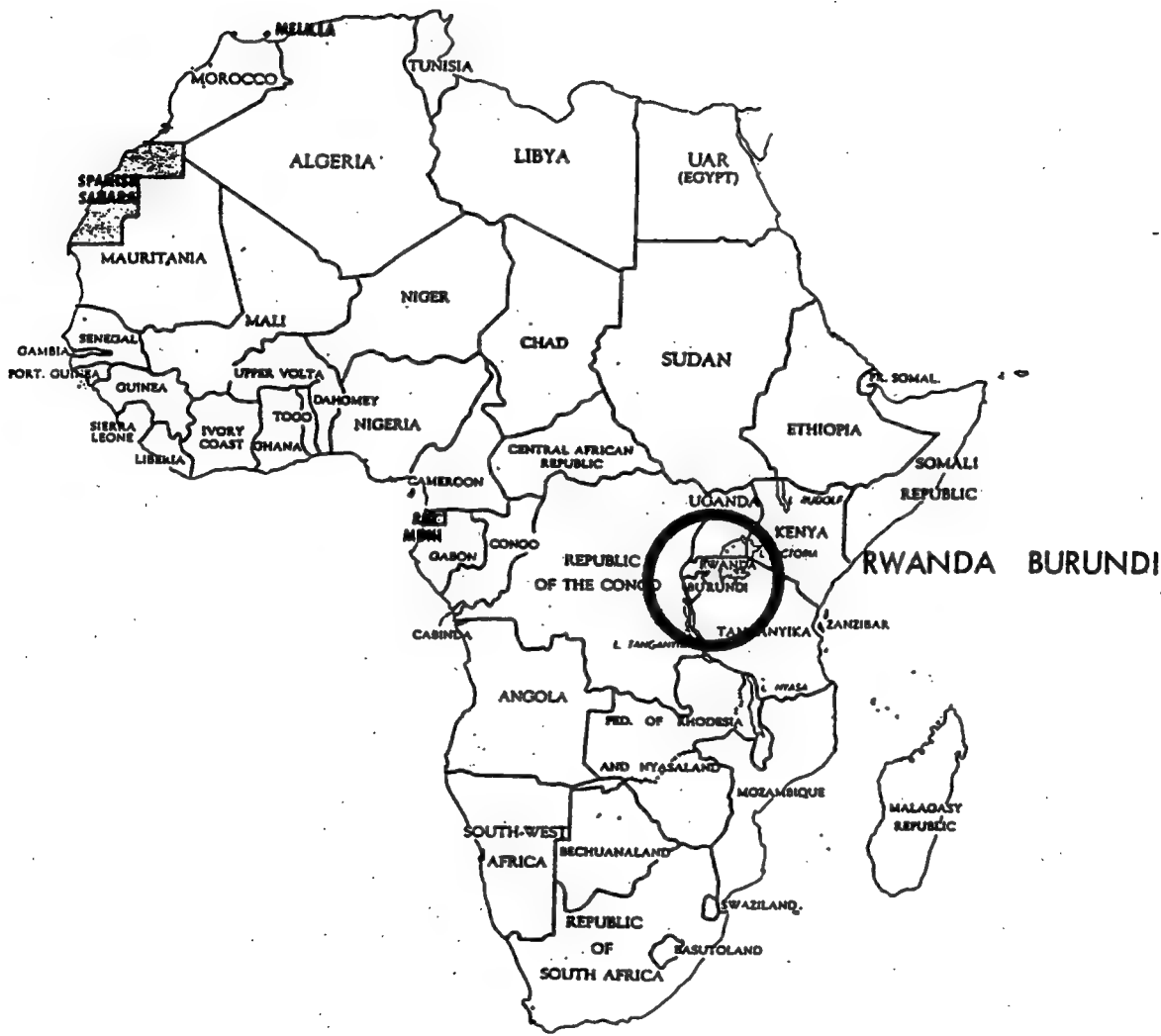
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4/BR

(SC-NLT-088/93 B17)



## E. Indonesia-Philippines

F. Indonesia Djakarta is giving every indication that it will hold up final action on the long-pending oil contracts with US companies in an attempt to smoke us out on the question of US aid policy toward Indonesia.

G. Rwanda-Burundi Tribal refugees from Rwanda, now in Burundi, seem bent on making trouble between the two countries. Some 3,000 of their number were reported yesterday to be moving toward the frontier. They have little military capability, but blood could flow and require UN intervention.

## H. USSR-Congo

For The President Only - Top Secret

SC-ALT-085/93 8/12

ROUTING			
TO:	NAME AND ADDRESS	DATE	INITIALS
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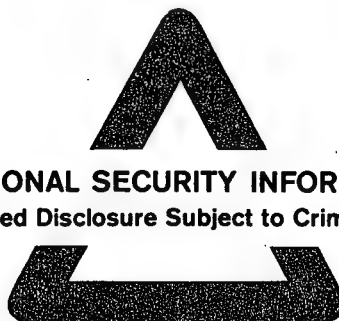
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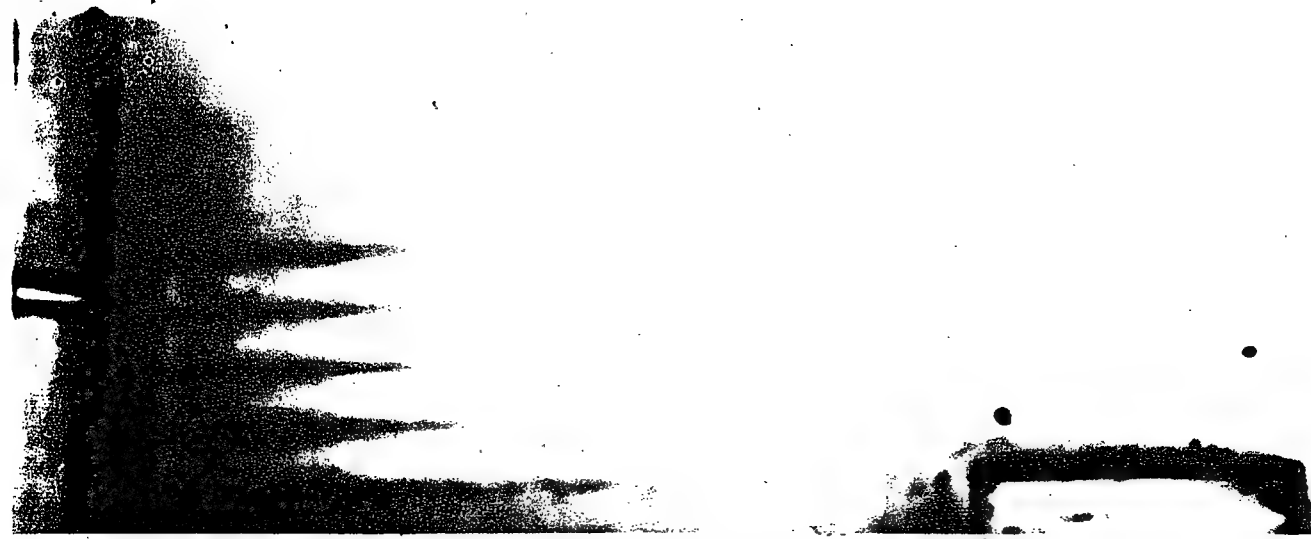
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# **THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST**

**ISSUED BY THE  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

**29 NOVEMBER 1963  
TOP SECRET**





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**TOP SECRET  
DINAR**

## 1. USSR

CIB

a. TASS has finally announced  
that the USSR will conduct another  
series of ICBM firings to the Pacific  
during the period 2 December to 25  
January.

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For The President Only - Top Secret

NBR

of National Liberation (FALN) will probably increase their efforts to disrupt the constitutional succession, which would be the first in Venezuela's history.

f. Meanwhile, in the wings are the military leaders who may well intervene if they find Betancourt's successor not to their liking.

g. Though President Betancourt has taken personal charge of the search to locate Colonel Chenault and those responsible for his kidnapping, his efforts so far have come to nought. The only news has been from a Caracas editor who had a call yesterday morning from a woman saying the colonel was safe.

3. Cuba-  
Venezuela

a. The discovery of a large cache of weapons of Cuban origin, announced by Venezuelan authorities yesterday, provides the best evidence to date of major Cuban support for Latin American subversives.

b. There is definite proof to support the Venezuelan claim. The three tons of weapons found include light automatic rifles and

(Cont'd)

For The President Only - Top Secret

VBR

submachine guns identified as among those shipped to Cuba from Belgium in 1959 and 1960. There were also mortars, bazookas, recoilless rifles, and ammunition of US manufacture.

c. Communist documents seized by Venezuelan authorities earlier this month reveal that the equipment was destined for the Venezuelan Communists' paramilitary arm, the Armed Forces of National Liberation (FALN).

d. The cache was found on 1 November on a beach in Falcon State in the north, scene of the most active guerrilla effort. The Venezuelan government assumes that the weapons were sent from Cuba by sea.

e. Caracas will lay formal charges concerning the arms cache before a special meeting of Latin America Foreign Ministers scheduled for December. After that it will ask that the Council of the Organization of American States be convoked for consultation on the matter.

For The President Only - Top Secret

4. Communist  
China -  
Afro-Asia

*Bamako 138  
BD 4975*

a. More information on Chinese Premier Chou En-lai's Afro-Asian swing is beginning to leak out.

c. The press in Mali says Chou, accompanied by Foreign Affairs Minister Chen Yi, will visit Algeria, Mali, Ghana, Guinea, Somalia, Tanganyika, and Albania.

d. The Pakistanis have just informed our ambassador that they have agreed to a state visit by the two Chinese in mid-February at the conclusion of their two month tour.

*NR*

5. Cuba

*Harachi 1044*

*Del check list*

a. Another London shipping firm says it is willing to abandon its Cuban trade.

b. Embassy London has been advised by Papadakis and Co., Ltd. that it is prepared to keep its two ships involved in the trade from calling at Cuban ports when their charters run out next January.

(Cont'd)

*NR*

1-30000  
c. Papadakis is probably asking the same price for its action as Basil Mavrolean did recently--removal of its ships from the US blacklist. Papadakis operates 19 ships totalling more than 200,000 tons.

d. Mavrolean's vessels account for almost half the present British tonnage calling at Cuban ports and are the largest single element of free world shipping to Cuba.

e. The outcome of Mavrolean's offer is not yet clear.

For The President Only - Top Secret

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NOTES

CIB

A. South Korea President-elect Pak Chong-hui's success in winning control of the unicameral legislature in Tuesday's elections improves prospects for smooth operation of the new constitutional government. However, political stability will still depend on Pak's willingness to rule with moderation. If he interprets this victory as a popular mandate to pursue an aggressive authoritarian program, he could provoke serious unrest. NBR

Djakarta 1157

B. Indonesia-Philippines President Sukarno's visit to Manila is on again for 4 December, according to the Indian ambassador to Djakarta. He assumes its purpose is to head off Philippine recognition of Malaysia. NBR

TDCS DB  
3/658/113  
R 73

C. Thailand Prime Minister Sarit appears to have taken a further turn for the worst. NBR

Usumbura 281

D. Rwanda-Burundi Prompt action by Burundi security forces appears to have halted the march of tribal refugees on Rwanda that we reported yesterday. There is little doubt that the refugees, who carried only a handful of modern arms and were poorly organized, would have been badly mauled by Rwandan troops if they had crossed the frontier. NBR

(Cont'd)

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For The President Only - Top Secret



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E. Colombia Pro-Castro members of the terrorist National Liberation Army (ELN) are believed responsible for the recent wave of bombings in Colombia's major cities. At least a dozen bombs were set off in Bogota during the last two nights. Two of the bombs failed to explode after being placed close to the residence of the chief of US Naval Mission

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	APPROVAL	DISPATCH	RECOMMENDATION
	COMMENT	FILE	RETURN
	CONCURRENCE	INFORMATION	SIGNATURE
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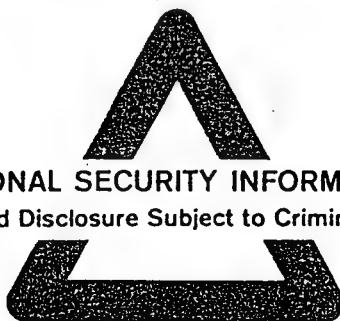
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Ret. &amp; from

Mrs. Roberts

12/10/63

8

# THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

30 NOVEMBER 1963  
TOP SECRET

1. Venezuela

a. Election campaigning ended at midnight, but boosters for the several candidates continued to mill about streets of Caracas in defiance of terrorist threats to shoot anyone who ventured out for the next three days.

b. The terrorists, it seems, were all but drowned out by the carnival air.

c. The FALN, meanwhile, is trying to bargain off Colonel Chenault for as high a price as it can, demanding variously release of all its comrades, of all women detained by the government, and of the six hijackers who have been returned from Trinidad to custody in Venezuela.

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2. Sino-Soviet dispute

a. The Chinese Communists will have nothing to do with the idea of bilateral talks with the Soviets under present circumstances.

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(Cont'd)

For The President Only - Top Secret

2/BR

d. Moscow, for its part, has apparently stopped thinking about another gathering of world Communist party representatives.

e. The feelers it put out after the conclusion of the test-ban treaty were received coldly by some of the fraternal parties. They felt such a meeting could only make matters worse with the Chinese.

f. Indeed, Peiping saw this to be Moscow's purpose, and when the idea failed to take hold, the Chinese took it to be a setback for Khrushchev personally.

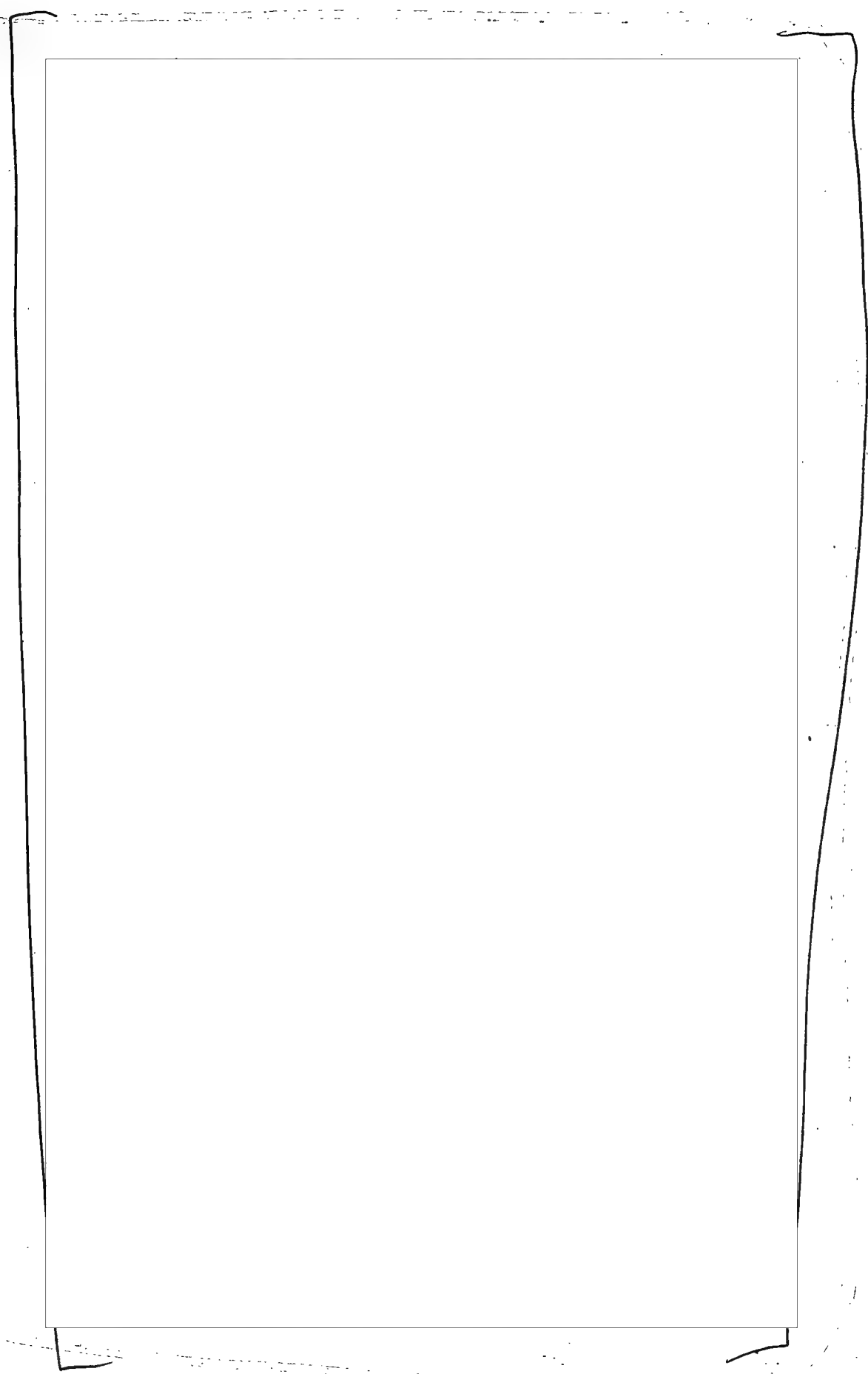
g. Their reaction to Khrushchev's subsequent call for a cessation of open argument was to press the offensive, and this they have been doing in roundly abusive terms since.

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For The President Only - Top Secret



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h. The forthcoming Afro-Asian visits by Chou En-lai and Chen Yi have awakened suspicions that the Chinese are in hot pursuit of a second Bandung-type conference--a more rewarding enterprise from their point of view.

NBR

### 3. USSR

*open ~~supra~~  
"ballistic  
missiles"  
only*

2 NBR

NBR

### 4. Kenya - Communist Bloc

a. The Soviet Bloc will soon gain an important propaganda outlet in Nairobi, communications hub for East Africa.

NBR

b. Plans are for a state-controlled news agency to be set up by the Kenyan government when it

(Cont'd)

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For The President Only - Top Secret

4 NBR

achieves independence on 12 December. This will fall under the jurisdiction of communications minister Oneko, who has well developed contacts within the Soviet Bloc.

c. TASS has already agreed to equip the new agency, and Kenyan requests for further financial and technical help are being discussed in Prague and Moscow.

d. Kenyan journalists have been training in Prague and, on return, will find ready employment in the new agency.

NBR

5. Czechoslovakia  
USSR

a. Czech President Novotny returned from Moscow on Thursday after signing a renewal (for another 20 years) of the treaty of friendship and mutual assistance.

b. He apparently got little else out of Khrushchev. The final communique was conspicuously cool.

c. There were no Soviet concessions, nor were there the usual references to Czech "progress" or to public support for Novotny's leadership.

NBR



6. South Vietnam

a. The first suicide by burning to occur under the new regime was witnessed today by bystanders at a crowded intersection in Saigon where a young girl went up in flames.

b. A note she left behind said she was protesting the war of Vietnamese against Vietnamese. At the intersection are three villas which house the ICC delegations.

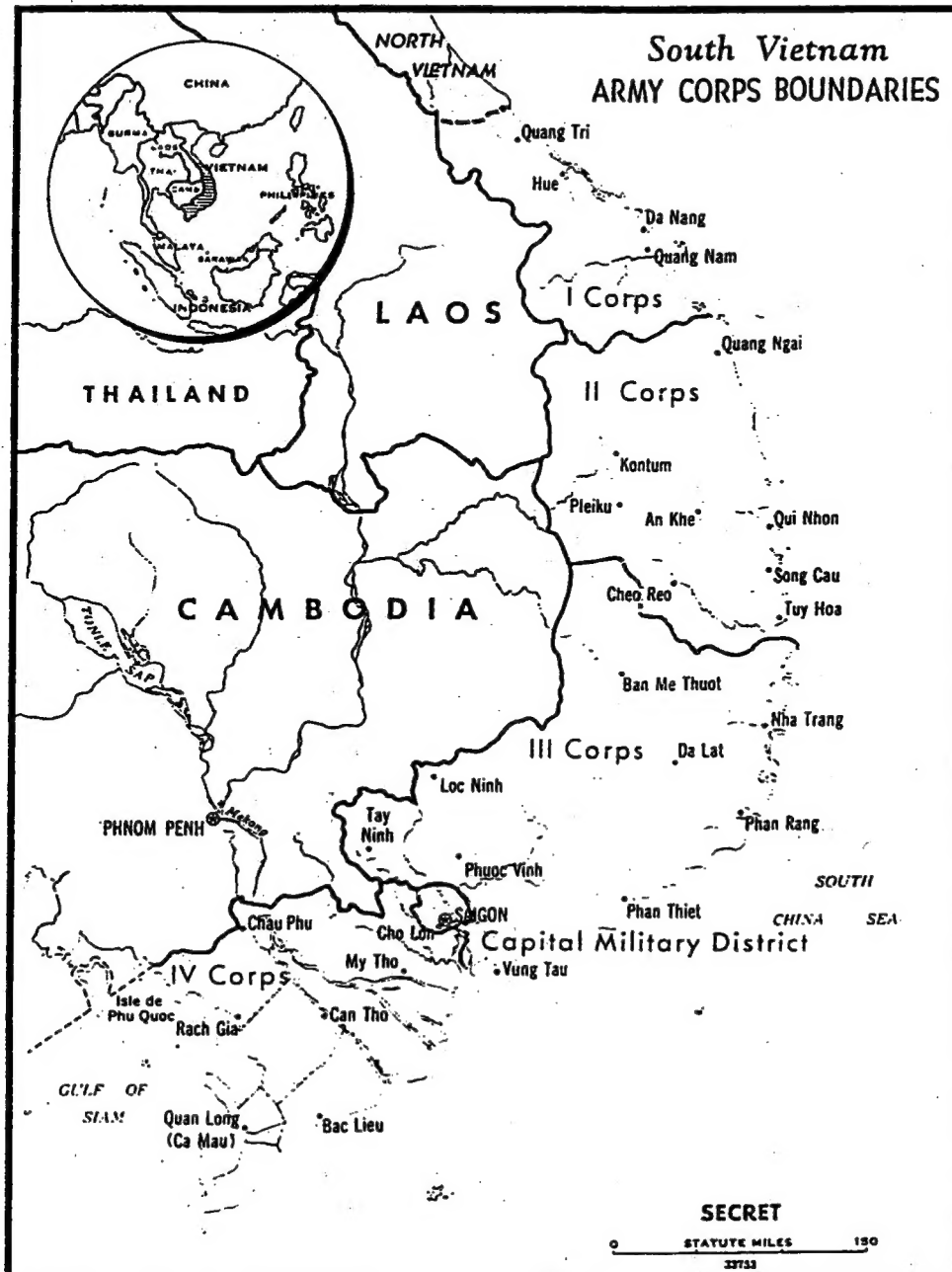
c. There were no Buddhist overtones.

d. Some think the Viet Cong encouraged her, but if they did, they did not write her script. They would have said it is the Americans who are fighting the Vietnamese.

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VBR

For The President Only - Top Secret



NOTES

- A. South Vietnam Plans are now afoot to shuffle South Vietnam's Corps commanders so that General Khanh, considered by General Harkins to be the best of the lot, will take over in the crucial delta (IV Corps) area. General Dinh, the ambitious Minister of Security, is still resisting pressure to relinquish command of the III Corps area, and is not involved in the current shuffle.
- B. Cuba-USSR There are about 8,000 Soviets in Cuba, 5,000 of these military, according to a bloc official in close touch with Soviets in Havana. The figures are close to our own estimate of 4,000 to 7,000. Some withdrawals continue.
- C. Cambodia-Vietnam Sihanouk seems to feel that cutting off his nose to spite his face was not enough. Now he says he will formally recognize North Vietnam if the US does not silence the Khmer Serei radio.
- D. Indonesia-Cambodia

NBR

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(Cont'd)

21BR

For The President Only - Top Secret

E. Coal and Steel Community Coal and Steel community members at their next meeting on Monday will probably vote to raise community steel tariffs by an average of nine percent. This would bring the tariffs of each member into line with Italy's, the highest in the community. Only the Dutch oppose the idea.

NBR

F. British Guiana - Cuba

NBR

G. Brazil-US A press report from Rio cites "well informed sources" to the effect that Goulart plans soon to invite Mrs. Kennedy to visit Brazil so that Brazil can pay her the honors which it had planned to render the late President.

NBR

H. Cuba-Morocco

NBR

c/1BR

DOCUMENT OF INTEREST

The effect in France of the President's death.

For The President Only - Top Secret